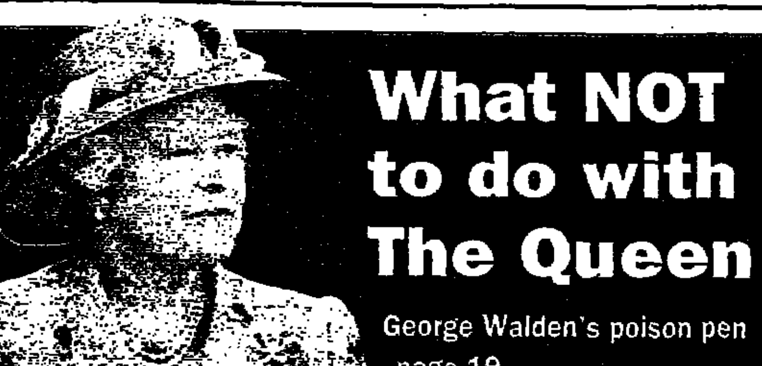




THE TIMES

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What NOT to do with The Queen

George Walden's poison pen page 19

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30p EVERY WEEKDAY

- Party director is sacked over leaked speech
- E-mail searched in hunt for Smith Sq mole

Tories mutiny over end of Thatcherism

By Andrew Pierce

THE Tory Party was in crisis last night over the leadership's attempt to downgrade Thatcherism after a senior party director was accused of disloyalty and sacked.

Michael Simmonds, the £60,000-a-year director of marketing and membership, was called in by the party chairman Michael Ancram at 8.30am yesterday, branded a leaker and told to clear his desk immediately. Mr Ancram was acting on William Hague's orders after Central Office traced every e-mail and fax sent from the building.

The sacking — the first of its kind for 50 years — came after a report in *The Times* on Saturday which disclosed the original draft of a speech Peter Lilley, the deputy leader, gave last Tuesday as Tories celebrated the 20th anniversary of Margaret Thatcher's first election victory. But he was forced to water it down after the furious intervention of Shadow Cabinet colleagues. Mr Simmonds was accused of being behind the leak, which seriously embarrassed Mr Lilley.



We've trained him to sniff out dodgy e-mails

His dismissal came as one of the party's most senior figures admitted that the conflict over the Tory policy review was pitching the party into crisis. James Arbuthnot, the Chief Whip, told a Central Office strategy meeting yesterday morning: "The parliamentary party is in crisis over the Lilley speech." At lunchtime, he called a second meeting and told senior party figures that at the meeting a few hours earlier he had "massively underestimated the scale of dissent on the backbenches", and gave the warning: "William has to do something about it."

> 'The parliamentary party is in crisis over the Lilley speech. . .I have seriously underestimated the scale of dissent on the backbench. William has to do something about it'
>
> — *James Arbuthnot, Tory Chief Whip*

The abrupt sacking of Mr Simmonds — a party worker for four years who was special adviser to the former chairman Sir Brian Mawhinney and who spent six weeks working unpaid for Mr Lilley's leadership campaign in 1997 — has prompted speculation of further casualties. There is talk of resignations at the party headquarters in protest at the downgrading of the party's support for free market solutions to cure the ills of the health service and education system.

The original version of Mr Lilley's speech was an uncompromising attempt to break with the party's Thatcherite past and argued that "most Conservatives always accepted public services are intrinsically unsuited to delivery via the market".

Mr Lilley was incensed by the leak and demanded to know the source. He spoke to Ann Widdecombe, the Shadow Health Secretary, at the weekend and effectively accused her of being the mole.

Miss Widdecombe, a vocal critic of Mr Lilley in last week's stormy shadow cabinet meeting, refused to discuss the matter yesterday. But friends said that she was "wild with anger" at the charge.

The party high command threw its backing behind Miss Widdecombe, but Mr Lilley still wanted retribution. "He wanted a body on the cross," said one party insider.

A leak inquiry was set up, and Mr Simmonds fell victim to technology. The internal inquiry concluded late on Monday night that it must have been sent using e-mail.

Mr Simmonds was called in and told to go. Mr Ancram broke the news to senior staff at 9am. They were forbidden to talk to the press. Details leaked a few minutes later.

Mr Hague overrode the advice Of Mr Ancram and Archie Norman, the Asda chairman and party chief executive, to let Mr Simmonds leave quietly after the European elections in June. "We wanted to avoid any more bad headlines," said one official. "Hague was having none of it. He wanted him out."

Another longstanding official said: "The inner-circle does not consult, it dictates. Anyone who can find a life raft will get on it. The current atmosphere is bad. Very bad. Morale is now subterranean, not low. It is reminiscent of the last days of an East European dictatorship. People are trying to get out. We cannot bear to read the papers any more. Except the job vacancies."

Howard plea, page 2
Leading article, page 21

Even dress sense deserts party leaders in Scotland

By Gillian Harris
Scotland Correspondent

A SARTORIAL prank by the Scottish Conservatives backfired last night when it emerged that the party had borrowed a contentious advertising slogan without permission and emblazoned it across campaign T-shirts.

The decision to use the words "FCUK Tuition Fees" on more than 30,000 shirts to be distributed among students has also shocked activists who feel their party has abandoned all respectibility in its attempts to win the youth vote.

Today lawyers for the high street fashion retailer French Connection, which owns the slogan, will examine the Tories' handiwork and decide whether it breaches copyright.

"We were not aware of this. They did not approach us and, if they had, we would not have given permission," a spokeswoman for the company said. "I am very surprised to hear that the Conservatives have done this."

fcuk tuition fees

A Tory insider admitted she hoped the party was forced to withdraw the T-shirts, part of a campaign for the abolition of tuition fees in Scotland. "To be honest, I think they've gone too far. I don't think we should be encouraging bad language, which this is, however subtle it appears," she said.

French Connection UK reported record profits and sales last year on the back of the FCUK Fashion campaign, dreamt up by the advertising agency GGT. However, it was withdrawn from a number of glossy style magazines after readers complained to the Advertising Standards Authority. The Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church also condemned the slogan as a "cheap stunt".

Now the store uses FCUK as a registered trademark and it has capitalised on the bad publicity by selling 100,000 T-shirts carrying the slogan.

Brian Monteith, Tory education spokesman, said there had been concern that using the slogan might have been considered "indiscreet", but he added: "It's aimed at students ... They will have a laugh about it on what is a very serious issue for them."

He insisted there was no breach of copyright. The Tory T-shirts were different in colour and typeface.

Last night the Conservative Party in England distanced itself from its Scottish colleagues. "Another banana skin," said one senior Tory.

DAVID LONG

Hugh Grant dares to go without a tie as Elizabeth Hurley bares nearly all in Versace

Hurley steals the show in sequins

JULIA ROBERTS may be the star but another Liz Hurley dress stole the show last night at the premiere of *Notting Hill*, the long-awaited follow-up to *Four Weddings and a Funeral*.

Although she does not appear in the film, Hurley's sequined Versace dress ensured that she shared the limelight when she arrived on the arm of her boyfriend Hugh Grant. Roberts's co-star. Five years ago another Versace creation, apparently held together by safety pins, thrust Hurley centre-stage at the premiere of *Four Weddings*.

Roberts, who was last to arrive at the Odeon in Leicester Square, also opted for sequins and stopped to sign autographs. Earl Spencer, Elton John and Joanna Lumley were among the guests at the opening.

Dando's killer may have had a fixation

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

DETECTIVES hunting the gunman who killed Jill Dando believe the murderer could have been fixated on her. Police have begun delving into the 37-year-old television presenter's private life, talking to former boyfriends and colleagues for any clues to someone with a grudge.

The team, led by Detective Chief Inspector Hamish Campbell, is not ruling out the murder having been a contract killing by an underworld figure. This could have been prompted by a wish for revenge, linked to BBC1's *Crimewatch UK* programme, which Miss Dando co-presented.

But Mr Campbell said there was no evidence of threats to her or to the programme. Statements from seven witnesses also raised a series of doubts about a contract shooting, he said.

The suspected gunman was seen loitering in the area in the hour before the attack. The detective said that professional killers took pains to avoid spending too much time at the scene. The suspect did not bother disguising himself with a mask or hood and did not wear gloves to prevent leaving fingerprints.

The gun used by the killer was powerful and is widely used in the underworld. Mr Campbell said the same type of gun has been used for other calculated killings, but killers have also used smaller calibre weapons as well.

Mr Campbell said a professional killer would also have prepared an escape plan. Police have found no evidence of one and the suspect was last seen at a bus stop.

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Letters, page 21

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Mercy flights for 300 a week

By Richard Ford
Home Correspondent

MORE than 150 Kosovo refugess will arrive in Britain tomorrow as the emergency airlift of evacuees is set to become a twice weekly operation.

The group of refugees, comprising 18 people needing medical treatment and about 140 dependants, will land at East Midlands International Airport at noon.

One group of refugees are to be taken to a reception centre in a former school near Castle Donnington in Derbyshire after arriving aboard the flight from Skopje in Macedonia. Another group may be taken to Leicester.

A twice weekly airlift of refugees to regional airports is planned after Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, told MPs that Britain would accept thousands of ethnic Albanians, but he declined to put a figure. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has asked Britain to take a further 400 people who have fled Kosovo and said plans were being made for flights every Tuesday and Thursday.

Refugees will go to councils around Edinburgh and Glasgow over the next three weeks. Among other areas being chosen are Manchester and Oldham.

In Derbyshire doctors and social workers are getting ready for the second group of refugees to arrive in Britain since the Nato bombing campaign started. The arrival of the refugees comes as the government has admitted that the number of people seeking asylum in Britain this year could rise to 62,000 compared with 52,000 last year.

The rising numbers have caused chaos in the Asylum and Immigration Directorate. The backlog rose by 10,400 in the first three months this year to reach 74,000.

War reports, pages 14, 15
Simon Jenkins, page 20
Leading article, page 21

Students both guilty

A motive for the savage murder of college student Russell Crookes remained a mystery as his two best friends faced life sentences for the killing. Neil Sayers, 19, and Graham Wallis, 18, stabbed 17-year-old Russell Crookes to death at Hadlow College in Kent before burning and dismembering his body and burying it in a shallow grave. Sayers was found guilty of the murder by a jury at Maidstone Crown Court. Wallis had already admitted the killing.....Page 3

Space tourist Welshman books Mir holiday

By Anna Blundy in Moscow and Adam Sherwin

A BRITISH businessman has agreed to pay $100 million for a week-long ride on Russia's ageing, accident-prone Mir space station, Russian officials announced yesterday.

Peter Llewellyn, 51, Welsh-born but living in the US, intends to travel to the orbital spacecraft in August in a *Soyuz* rocket with two Russian cosmonauts. After a week in space, he will return to Earth with the Mir's current crew. The deal calls for Mr Llewellyn, who holds a pilot's licence, to invest at least $100 million (£62 million) into financing Mir's operations, upgrading equipment at one of the plants of the state-run RKK Energia company, which runs Mir, and other projects. In return, he gets his Mir flight.

Mr Llewellyn, who is married with two children and made his fortune through a waste-reprocessing company called Microlife USA, will begin training next month at the Star City complex near Moscow.

The director of the Russian space agency, Yuri Koptev, said Mr Llewellyn's funds, to be paid in £25 million instalments, "could serve to prolong the life of Mir by several months". After the end of August, when government cash runs out, Mir would be left to burn up in the Earth's atmosphere.

But Sergei Gorbunov, a spokesman for the Russian space agency, was not yet convinced Mr Llewellyn's flight would take place. A US businessman with links to the Russian space programme said: "$100 million is way over the odds. I was offered a trip to Mir last year for $20 million." And Sergei Gromov, spokesman for Energia, said he had only seen the Welshman once. "He didn't make a devastating impression on me." But Mr Llewelyn must be fearless. Mir has suffered many accidents in its 13-year orbit; and one ex-astronaut even claimed it is held together by rubber bands.

Ceremonial squabble as Dewar makes his last stand



YESTERDAY saw a small and, for Westminster parliamentarians, poignant ceremony. Donald Dewar conducted the last ever *proper* session of Commons Questions to the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Next week come the elec*tions to a Scottish parliament* which is to assume most of Westminster's responsibilities. Its new first minister (expected to be Mr Dewar) will answer for these in the Edinburgh assembly. In London there will be an abbreviated opportunity to ask a minister (probably not Mr Dewar, or not for long) certain questions about Scotland — but the status and scope of the occasion will be, in the fashion*able parlance, diminished* and degraded.

So the 45 minutes after Prayers on Tuesday were a collector's item, and MPs knew it.

John Maxton (Lab, Glas*gow Cathcart) was the first to* put into words what was on every mind. He congratulated Mr Dewar on this "last Scottish Question Time" and wished him well in the new parliament where, Mr Max*ton was confident, Mr Dewar* was shortly to take control.

Early indication of the trouble Mr Dewar will face there came from the only Scottish National Party MP present. John Swinney (Tayside N) accused ministers of secret deals to "carve up" Scotland's new parliament, which would be forced "to take London's orders from new Labour". Labour MPs clucked and howled with irritation.

The minister replying, *Henry McLeish*, called Mr Swinney "pathetic". The front bench well knows that in Edinburgh the SNP will caricature a Scottish Labour administration as they always have at Westminster: as an English neo-colonial satrapy run by Labour's tartan Quislings and Uncle McToms. This sketchwriter, who has for more than a decade had to endure and report these squabbles at Westminster, felt a huge inward relief that this regular Labour v SNP fixture will from now on be played away.

Just how much will be played away was *brought* home when Mr *Dewar* appeared to rebuff even a friendly question from behind him — from Rosemary McKenna (Lab, Cumbernauld and Kilsyth). Mrs McKenna asked about "modern apprenticeships" and "lifelong learning" and wondered what good news he would shortly be reporting on both — to the Scottish parliament.

Mr Dewar replied that he was not sure it was for the Commons even to inquire.

Nicholas Winterton (C, Macclesfield) remarked that there was shortly to be a "massive transfer of power" to Scotland (Dewar congratulated him on "getting to the nub of the matter with uncharacteristic speed") and asked the Secretary of State how much of this Scottish MPs at Westminster would remain able to monitor. Not a lot, it ap*peared from Dewar's reply.*

Harry Cohen (Lab, Leyton and Wanstead) opened up what may prove an entirely new front. Asking about Scottish law on male rape (laws which he thought illiberal) the cheeky *Londoner spoke* rather as MPs do at Foreign Office Questions when they scold the Foreign Secretary over threats to human rights in legislation abroad. Mr Cohen's colleagues looked confused. An English progressive thinker is in favour of Scottish self-government, but against infringements of human rights. Which trumps which? Urgent guidance required from Millbank.

Sir Teddy Taylor (C, Rochford and Southend E) asked how, as Scottish first minister, Mr Dewar planned to advise Westminster MPs of his parliament's doings. He replied *that* they could read *about it in the* Scottish parliament's official report.

"I am not sure," Mr Dewar added in his customarily mournful way, "that was the most exciting answer I have ever given, but I hope it may be my last."

Poor election results 'could topple Hague'

BY ROLAND WATSON, *POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT*

WILLIAM HAGUE was warned yesterday that his attempts to reposition the Conservative Party have left him vulnerable should poor midterm election results spark a challenge to his leadership.

MPs on the Right said that in such a contest, Mr Hague's decision to ditch Thatcherite baggage would cost him the support of significant numbers of rightwingers, many of them his supporters during the John Major succession.

That warning came as it emerged that Labour is looking to capitalise on the low Tory showing in the polls — by eyeing up seats it could take from them in a general election. Labour has drawn up a target list of 25 where Tory MPs have a majority of less than 2,000: ministers canvassing for local elections have made a point of visiting them.

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, was yesterday in Weymouth — part of Dorset South, where the Tory majority is 77. Alan Howarth, Culture Minister, was in Hexham — Tory majority 222. Alistair Darling, Social Security Secretary, has canvassed in Mid Norfolk, which the Tories hold by 1,336 votes. Party chiefs at their Millbank headquarters will pore over election results in those areas to decide if they may be vulnerable. The revelation that Labour has not ruled out increasing its 176-seat Commons majority will further unsettle Tory morale.

Speculation about Mr Hague's leadership prospects had already returned to Westminster after his attempts to move his party away from a free-market approach to the welfare state. Tory MPs from across the spectrum are agreed that results in next week's local elections, together with the party's showing in Scotland, Wales, and at the European elections in June, could prove critical to Mr Hague.

It also emerged yesterday that Tory strategists were relieved not to have to fight a by-election in Newark after the initial disqualification of Fiona Jones. First surveys in the Nottinghamshire seat, won by 3,016 votes, suggested Labour would have kept it.

Although few yesterday were predicting a leadership challenge, many said it could emerge as an issue over the next six weeks. In Mr Hague's favour, there is no credible candidate with sufficiently Eurosceptic views for the Right to back. MPs say that although Francis Maude was seen as a possible challenger, the Shadow Chancellor had bound himself to Mr Hague's reforming drive. The only other contender is considered to be Ken Clarke, the former Chancellor, whose pro-European views are antipathetic to too many Tory MPs.

Also, the Tories are certain to make gains in all the elections, although a failure to improve by more than 1,000 council seats from the party's low watermark four years ago would set alarm bells ringing.

Even MPs from the Right who helped Mr Hague become leader said that he would be unable to count on large sections of support again. "He has isolated pro-Europeans and now he has isolated free-marketeers. That's a lot of people," said one.

Another suggested the critical point would come if the elections show the Tories beached on their present 27 per cent showing.

Leading article, page 21

BARRY GREENWOOD



The odd-job couple: Bernard Manning emerges as the Tories' answer to Sean Connery in Scotland. Diary, page 20

Howard backs party leader

BY MARK INGLEFIELD, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Conservative Party had been right to elect William Hague as its leader ahead of him, Michael Howard said yesterday.

His verdict, coming less than a week after he severely criticised the speech by Peter Lilley that provoked Mr Hague's most serious internal revolt, may surprise Tories. But Mr Howard, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, put up a united front yesterday despite the dressing down that he gave his party leader at a Shadow cabinet meeting last week.

Colleagues are still talking of the way he tore the speech apart, paragraph by paragraph, jabbing his finger at every new violation of the Thatcherite creed that he holds so dear.

"I think the party made the right decision," Mr Howard told *The Times* yesterday. "I think William has been able to do things in the party, in respects of organisation, in a way I could not have done.

"He has been able to look at things with a newer look than I could. And of course he was not as associated with the last government as I am."

Although Mr Howard, accepted that Mr Hague was facing an uphill struggle to win the hearts and minds of his own party and the public, he insisted it would happen in the end. "I think the public will come around to appreciate his very considerable abilities and I don't think we should be obsessed about what the polls tell us at the moment because that can change."



Howard: standing down

Mr Howard has decided to stand down from frontline politics after Mr Hague's summer reshuffle. He claims that he finds being in opposition frustrating. He refused to comment on the row that has split the Shadow cabinet. "I am not going to say any more than I have already," he said. "If you want to know exactly what Peter Lilley was saying you will have to ask him.

There is history between Mr Howard and Mr Hague who famously betrayed Mr Howard during the 1997 Tory Party leadership contest. Over a glass of champagne at Mr Howard's London home, he pledged his support the older MP's candidature. In the end, he ran himself and won.

Asked if he was disheartened by William Hague's poor poll rating, Mr Howard said. "He needs time and should be given time. I don't think we should be obsessed by what the polls tell us at the moment."

Heads' union to back Ofsted

BY HANNAH BETTS

A GROUP of head teachers from "beacon schools" is behind a new union that aims to support Ofsted and education reforms.

They are all disillusioned members of the National Association of Head Teachers, who complain at the leadership of the general secretary, David Hart. Mr Hart led the move last week to ask the Director of Public Prosecutions to investigate accusations that Chris Woodhead, head of Ofsted, had an affair with a sixth-former more than 20 years ago.

Jim Hudson, a founder of the new union and head of a school in Milton Keynes, said yesterday: "The Woodhead decision was the straw that broke the camel's back, but we have been considering this for some time. When is there ever a pro-active, positive reaction from teaching unions?"

Most of the 30-strong rebel group are members of the National Outstanding Primary Schools School-Centred Initial Teacher Training Consortium, a group of 50 schools that has formed a teacher-training institution with the blessing of Mr Woodhead. Each has received an outstanding inspection report, and many are also "beacon schools", which are Government designated centres of excellence.

Mr Hart said: "They think that this is about being pro- or anti-Woodhead, but it is not. It is about integrity in public life." The new union will be called the National Association of Primary Teachers.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Poll shows pessimism in Ulster

Tony Blair will hold further talks with Northern Ireland's political parties on the deadlocked peace process this week, but a poll has shown that just half of the province's population believes that the Good Friday peace accord will survive another year. Bertie Ahern, the Irish Taoiseach, had been expected to join the talks at Downing Street, but in a clear sign that no breakthrough is imminent he will not. The *Irish Times*-RTE poll showed that support for the accord has risen to 73 per cent, but 52 per cent believe that it will survive another year and just 26 per cent believed there would be lasting peace. Seventy per cent said that politicians should compromise.

Libel impasse

A High Court jury failed to reach a verdict on a libel action brought by the Tory MP Bill Cash against the *Sunday Mirror* for calling him a "gutless turncoat". Mr Cash will decide whether to seek a retrial on the 1992 story, which said he deserted miners in his constituency in their hour of need.

Quiz show wins

Who Wants To Be a Millionaire, the most successful quiz show in television history, won a silver rose at the Montreux Television Festival. The ITV programme has audiences of nearly 19 million. The Golden Rose of Montreux went to *The League of Gentleman*, a BBC2 sketch show.

Skateboard death

Kristina Jacobs, 7, died after her skateboard rolled from the drive of a house in Crowborough, East Sussex, into the path of a passing car, police said. The girl is believed to have been lying on the board when it was hit by a slow-moving Mercedes saloon.

Beef is back

The number of vegetarians in Britain is falling and beef consumption is back to the level it was at before the BSE crisis started, the annual Realeat Survey conducted by Gallup says. Five per cent of the population, roughly 3 million, are vegetarians, a fall of 0.4 per cent over the year.

Race debate off

The Oxford Union has cancelled a debate featuring John Tyndall, the British National Party Chairman, after police raised security fears in the wake of nail bombings in London. The Oxford University debating society invited the far-right leader to a debate on racism on May 17.

Teenagers face life for friend's murder

Judge delays sentencing to study implications of 'barbaric' case for society, **Richard Duce** reports

TWO college students who stabbed their best friend to death because "he got on their nerves", then burnt and dismembered his body, were last night facing life in jail.

Mr Justice Newman said that the murder of Russell Crookes, 17, posed wider questions for society, prompting him to delay sentence until next month to enable him to study the case more fully.

Graham Wallis, 18, had admitted murdering Russell in the grounds of Hadlow College, Kent, in May last year and was the main prosecution witness against Neil Sayers, 19, who was yesterday convicted of the crime at Maidstone Crown Court.

Mr Justice Newman said yesterday: "This brutal murder raises questions of the first importance touching both these defendants, their future life in society, the interest and plight of Russell Crookes' family, the interests of the defendants' family, the interests of Hadlow Agricultural College... [and] more than that, the interests of society at large.

"I have taken steps to see that at the time of the court sentencing for these young men it is as fully informed as it can be."

The jury, which took 80 minutes to convict Sayers of murder, had earlier passed the judge a note that read: "All members of the jury express their concern about the lack of supervision and adequate pastoral care of the under-18s resident at the college."

Outside the court yesterday Russell's father, Malcolm, an engineer said: "We can't comprehend how anyone could do that. Most civilised people could not. How could anyone do that to a fellow human being and a friend?"

Russell's sister Sarah, 31, said: "It has been a terrible ordeal for us. We don't know how we have managed to cope."

The families of both Wallis and Sayers refused to comment.

Detective Chief Inspector Dave Stevens, who led the murder enquiry said: "This case has been one of the most disturbing Kent police have investigated.

"Perhaps the most disturbing feature was the two young men, who were Russell's close friends, could turn on him in a such a barbaric way."

Mr Stevens said that evidence of a teenage secret society and a preoccupation with violent videos, particularly about the SAS, had not helped police to establish a motive for the killing.

In a statement, Elizabeth Browning, the chairman of the board of governors at Hadlow, said that the case "has heightened our awareness of the vulnerability of young people".

"A large part of the college resources and energy are directed towards creating a secure, structural environment for students. This is a tragedy for all concerned, particularly for the families of the three young men at the centre of this trial. Our thoughts are with them."

The judge will pass sentence on Wallis, from Croydon, South London, and Sayers, from Gillingham, Kent, on May 7.





Russell Crookes, centre, who was stabbed to death by his student friends, Neil Sayers, left, and Graham Wallis, right. They burnt his body and buried it in a shallow grave

They entered the woods boys. They came out killers

Pair's motive for turning on their friend may never become clear, writes **Richard Duce**

ON A moonlit May night in the Kent countryside near Tonbridge, three close friends from the horticultural college at Hadlow went wandering in the woods, as they had often done before, to share the pleasures and enthusiasms of late adolescence.

But by the night's end one was dead, murdered in chillingly cold blood by the other two. All three were from professional middle-class families: the victim was Russell Crookes, the son of an engineer, the murderers Graham Wallis, son of a bank manager, and Neil Sayers, an army officer's son.

What brands the killers most of all is their detachment. They were callow youths still chained to boyhood interests, yet they were callous beyond belief. Having stabbed Crookes at least twenty times and set fire to the body, Wallis and Sayers returned calmly to their college rooms to refresh themselves on orange squash and ginger-nut biscuits, returning later to bury the remains. Unfortunately for them, they could not be bothered to go down beyond a spade's depth, allowing a passing dog on a walk with his owner to sniff out the evidence 12 days later.

On May 13 last year the three appeared to be a close-knit gang calling themselves The Brotherhood, after a popular computer game on army tactics. They went to a copse less than a mile from the college, which they had named their "training ground". They would smoke and drink into the early hours, often missing lectures the next morning. They had discovered a mutual interest in survival skills taught to special forces behind enemy lines and, unknown to the college authorities, would often take sleeping bags and spend the night in the woods. None had a girlfriend, although Crookes made it clear that he did not like homosexuals.

Somehow, as time went by, the dynamics of their little set had changed. As midnight of May 13 passed, and the distant sound of the college disco faded into silence, the three sat staring into the remains of their camp fire.

As Crookes, wearing shorts and new Reebok trainers, stood up to go, he was stabbed through the chest and fell to the ground. He turned to Wallis for help but was stabbed at least 19 more times.

His body was rolled to the campfire, where it was doused with lighter fluid and torched. His killers calmly returned to their college rooms, returning later to bury their victim in a grave which, had it been a little deeper, might have had Russell Crookes listed for years as a missing person rather than a murder victim.

Sayers and Wallis had decided some days before that they would murder Crookes. Sayers had brought a pickaxe from home and the two had chosen a burial site but, in a trial run, the chosen ground had proven unyielding — and in the event they chose a shallow grave in the undergrowth.

Victim and killers, three among a thousand students at the State-run college, formed a close bond from their first days there in September 1996, when they arrived to study for a BTech in horticulture. Sayers, whose father served in the Royal Engineers, had a collection of knives which students say he polished obsessively. He is said to have been bullied at school and to have been dissuaded by his father from a military career.

Wallis, on the other hand, spread his interests to classical music, listening to Radio 4, and pursuing the occult. He was a gangly youth whom students described as "a bit camp" and who wore his hair in a 1970s quiff.

Crookes was far from gangly — he was a big youth, 6ft tall and 14 stone. He is described as the most ebullient of the three, who began to bully the other two. At first Sayers and Wallis laughed it off but during the trial it emerged as the only possible reason.

Crookes began to taunt Sayers as being a "pansy" and referred to Wallis as "Lord Ponsonby" or "Gay-ham". Yet at the trial when Wallis, who admitted murder, was given every opportunity to offer some rational motive for the killing, he could not. He said it was Sayers who had initiated the murder. If there is any motive, it appears to lurk deep in the recesses of the male psyche that has not yet made contact with the real world.

The two men who chased birds for 12,000 miles

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES
SOUTH WEST CORRESPONDENT

AFTER a lifetime as a hatters' merchant, Harry Howard decided that he had had enough of making braid bows for trilbies. So he packed his bags and his binoculars, kissed his wife goodbye and set off around the world to watch birds.

A year later the 59-year-old Lancashire businessman can claim a world record for bird-spotting, having seen a representative of every one of the 202 bird "families" in less than a year. He was accompanied by a professional ornithologist, Derek Scott, who planned their itinerary of 28 countries with such precision that they missed neither a bird nor an aircraft.

Hitting their target required two round-the-world trips, six months apart. The first, lasting 54 days, took them to countries in the Northern Hemisphere, the second, spread over nine weeks, was to the Southern.

In between, they fitted in visits to Central Asia, East Africa and West Africa. They kept it up right to the end, with trips to Southern Africa, Mexico and Switzerland in the final weeks of the 12 months.

Altogether they sighted 2,726 different types of birds. But Mr Howard never saw his wife, Freda, again. Shortly after arriving in Brazil on his second journey she fell ill and before he could get home she had died of cancer. As his wife had encouraged him to attempt the record in the first place, Mr Howard decided to resume his travels after a brief visit home for the funeral.



Mr Howard at home after his record bird-spotting trip

Mr Howard, from Arnside, had never suffered from "twitchy" feet and his most exotic birdwatching trips had been to Morecambe Bay. Then he met Mr Scott.

He said: "Derek's parents were neigbours and one day we were out birdwatching together and got chatting, as you do in idle moments. He said to me: 'I have often thought that you could see all the bird families in the world in a year but nobody's ever done that.' I never forgot that.

"Many years later I was looking at my bank statement and thought, 'I've got enough money to go,' so I just got up out of my armchair and went."

Mr Scott, from Dursley, in Gloucestershire, was already a professional ornithologist who had recorded 6,400 species on birdwatching trips to more than 120 countries. He said: "It was more than just about record-setting. It was Harry's trip of a lifetime."

What made it difficult was that 40 of the bird families have very few species and in some cases only one. "Finding them requires some special effort as they are very localised, scarce, strictly nocturnal or very secretive," Mr Scott said.

Their epic journeying involved 80 scheduled flights on 31 different airlines. They stayed in 83 different hotels and spent 11 nights in forest shelters or tents. More than 12,000 miles were clocked up in 25 different self-drive cars over 89 days in 17 countries. For another 31 days, hired vehicles with drivers took them around Kenya, Uganda, Kazakhstan, Cameroon, Argentina and Madagascar.

Two dozen trips were on water. Epic footslogging included eight miles in deep snow in Kazakhstan's Alatau Mountains. Once they waited three days to see a rockfowl in the Korup National Park of Cameroon, West Africa.

Since his return, Mr Howard has resumed work as Britain's last hatters' merchant. A few days ago he heard that an acquaintance was planning to take part in a round-the-world car journey and needed a navigator. "I was tempted for a moment," he said. "But only for a moment."

AROUND THE WORLD IN 2,762 BIRDS

First round-the-world trip
Second round-the-world trip
Mexico Separate trips
San Francisco
Detroit
Florida
Hawaii
Mexico
Dominican Republic
Trinidad
Panama
Venezuela
Brazil
Chile
Argentina
Ireland
Switzerland
Kazakhstan
Cameroon
Kenya and Uganda
Madagascar and S Africa
Dubai
Malaysia
Japan
Philippines
New Caledonia
Papua New Guinea
Australia
New Zealand

LINKS

Birds www.nhbs.co.uk/services/birdin.html
Birdlife International, an umbrella body for bird groups worldwide.
birdcare.com/birdon/birdaction/bto
The British Trust for Ornithology.

Gunman waited for victim's return

Witnesses saw suspect in street an hour before attack, write **Michael Harvey** and **Stewart Tendler**

THE man who killed Jill Dando may have paced up and down the streets around her house in Fulham for an hour waiting for her to arrive home, detectives said yesterday.

In what police described as a "brutal attack", the killer put a gun to Miss Dando's head and fired a single shot as she stood at her front door, holding shopping bags in both hands. There was no sign of a struggle.

Police have at least seven witnesses who saw a smartly dressed suspect in the area before and after the murder. The witnesses suggest that the killer was walking the streets from about 10.30am.

After the murder he could have rushed to a nearby park, dumped the gun, coat and a pair of glasses in the Thames and made his escape.

He was last seen at a nearby bus stop. Yesterday Detective Chief Inspector Hamish Campbell, leading a team of more than 30 detectives, said the killer could have ended his getaway by catching a bus towards South London.

Bus drivers on the Number 74 service, which runs every ten minutes to Roehampton past the murder scene, have been questioned by police in case they picked the man up.

Yesterday officers began investigating Miss Dando's private life, tracing former boyfriends and talking to BBC staff about any threats she may have received.

Mr Campbell said that Miss Dando began the day at the home of her fiancé, Alan Farthing, in Chiswick. She talked to a friend on the telephone and then left shortly after 10am.

She stopped in Hammersmith and went shopping in the large mall in King Street. Police are now looking at closed circuit television to see if anyone was following her.

Miss Dando then drove home to Gowan Avenue and arrived just after 11.30am. A neighbour heard her get out of her car, switch on the alarm, which gave two short beeps, and then walk to her door. She was due to go to a fashion photo shoot in the afternoon and then go for a fitting for her wedding dress. Mr Campbell said that her killer was either waiting for her or had followed her through the gate.

Richard Hughes, who lives next door, heard a scream. The killer pressed the gun to the side of his victim's head and fired. Police think that the shot was so close that much of the sound from a semi-automatic firing a single 9mm bullet was muffled.

The first man to see the suspect in the area was Alan Taylor, 55, who was cleaning windows at a house opposite Miss Dando's property at No 26. During a cigarette break upstairs he looked out of the window and saw a man on the other side of the street walking up and down outside the television presenter's elegant two-storey terraced house.

Mr Taylor said: "It was about 10.30am I noticed this man. I thought he looked like an estate agent. He was suited and booted and he was looking at a couple of the houses. I did not take much notice because you get a lot of estate agents round here.

"It was only later when I found out what happened that I realised I might have seen the murderer. He was stocky-ish, wearing a dark suit and he seemed to have fairish hair. He was definitely holding a mobile phone, but he was not acting suspiciously."

Mr Taylor, who runs a window cleaning business in the Fulham area, added: "I did not notice him when I left the house shortly after 11. That must have been only half an hour or so before Jill Dando was killed. It is a terrible thing to have happened to such a lovely lady."

A cleaner going between jobs saw a man of a similar description at the end of the road. She thought that he seemed odd because he was wearing glasses that did not fit.

A few minutes later one of Miss Dando's neighbours saw the suspect running from the murder scene. Geoffrey Upfill-Brown, who lives almost opposite Miss Dando's house, said that he was going out through his front door to go to the post office at around 11.30am when he noticed the man running down Gowan Avenue towards Fulham Palace Road. "I came out of the house and saw the man running down the road away from Jill Dando's house. I was suspicious because people don't run in this road."

He said that the man was wearing a black jacket and black trousers, possibly a suit.

"He was in my sight for about four to five seconds. He started off running fast, but then he heard my gate click. He looked in my direction and saw me and slowed down to a slower jog. He went behind a lorry parked in the road and I didn't see him again. He just didn't look right, he looked suspicious."

Mr Upfill-Brown, 71, who has lived in the road for many years, said he knew Miss Dando by sight. After noticing the man he set off in the opposite direction towards Munster Road and the post office. He said he passed Miss Dando's house but noticed nothing.

Mr Upfill-Brown said police had interviewed him and he did not want to give further details, but added: "He looked as if he was running away from something. Afterwards when I heard what happened I immediately went to the police."

Detectives now believe that the man may have run through Bishop's Park, close to the scene, and reached the Thames where he may have dumped his gun, a coat and a pair of glasses he used as a disguise.

A mother and her young son reported seeing a man climb over railings to the river. She was going to confront him about setting a bad example for her son, but stopped herself.

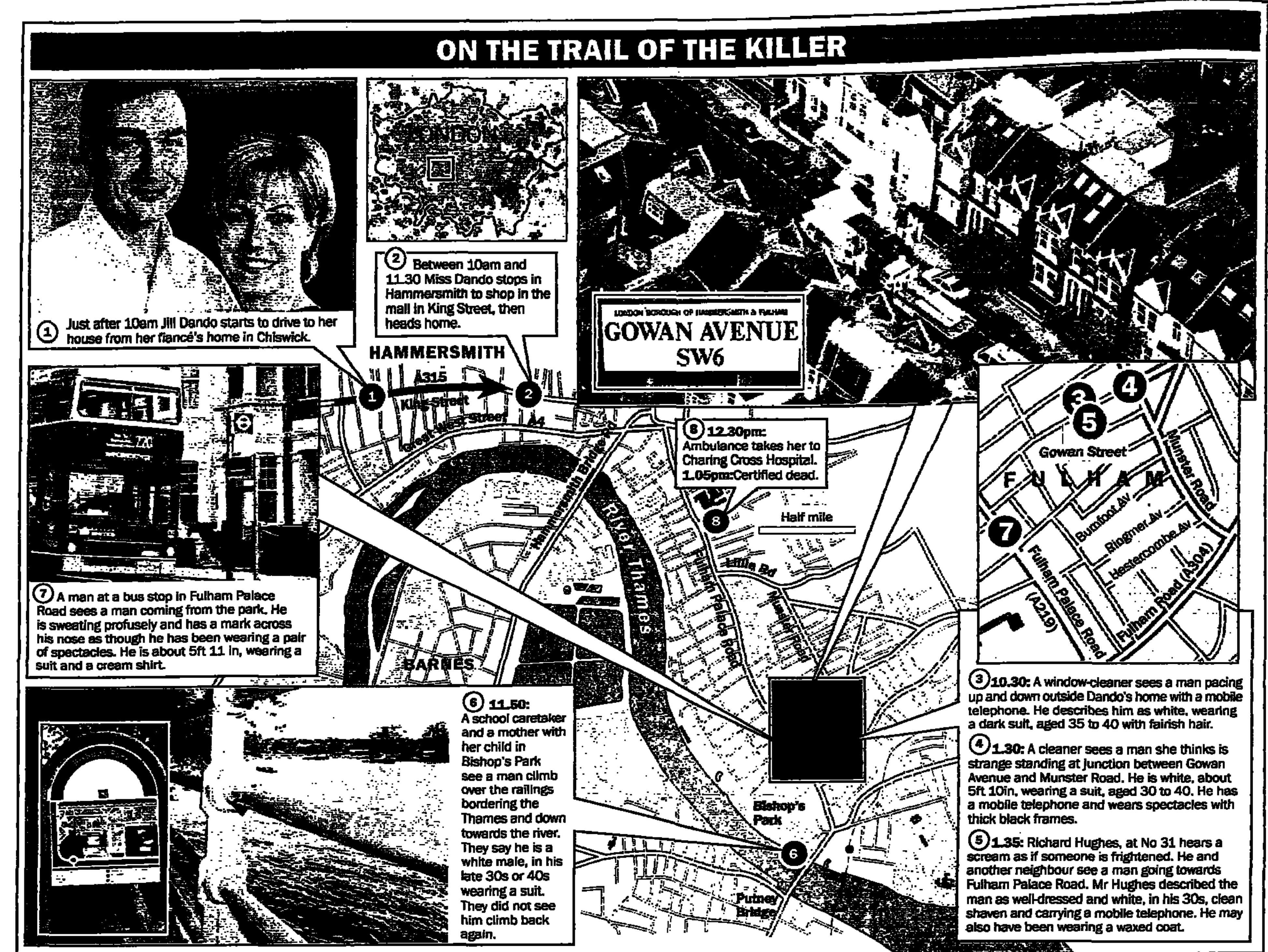
The man was also seen by a caretaker from a local school. Jim Collins, who works at All Saints Primary School in Bishop's Park, which stands between Gowan Avenue and the river, said: "I was down by the river at about 11.50 and I saw this man going over the railings. I think he was wearing a suit and possibly had dark hair." Neither Mr Collier nor the woman saw the man re-emerge from the edge of the river.

Minutes later a man with a similar description appeared at bus queue sweating profusely. One of the people in queue noticed he had marks on his nose as though he had been wearing glasses.

It also emerged yesterday that detectives were checking how many people visited Miss Dando's house after she put it on the market through a local estate agent.

Miss Dando, 38, who was selling the £400,000 property in advance of her marriage in September, told neighbours that a sale was going through and that she hoped to move out by July.

One neighbour said: "Initially she wanted to have a private sale because she did not want any publicity and curious fans riffling through her possessions." She said she was later surprised to see a picture of Miss Dando with the house in the agent's window.



Weapon used in shooting popular with underworld

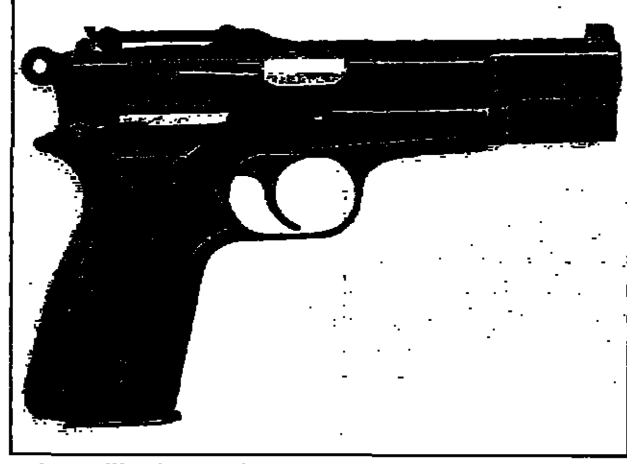
BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE believe that the gun which killed Jill Dando could have been a wartime souvenir or bought in the underworld for a few hundred pounds.

Ballistics experts have examined the bullet and the cartridge case found near Miss Dando's body and told detectives that the weapon was a semi-automatic handgun, firing a 9mm round. Similar guns have been manufactured in their millions by every weapon maker in the world since the end of the last century.

The ammunition was introduced as the metric version of the legendary .38. Almost every army and police force in the world uses the 9mm for semi-automatics. It is a powerful round that would normally be fatal fired at close range to the head.

In Britain, Browning 9mm semi-automatics were issued to servicemen in the 1950s and are still in use by the Army. Scotland Yard's marksmen and VIP protection officers are issued with a version made by the Austrian firm Glock.


A gun like the murder weapon can be bought for £300

Civilians are now banned in Britain from owning the guns by legislation introduced after the Dunblane massacre. However, there could still be thousands of ex-service weapons and war souvenirs held in secret.

They are also readily available in the underworld and one police source said that a weapon could be bought for £300 to £400. About half the hand weapons seized by the police from criminals in London would fit the general description of the gun that killed Miss Dando.

Underworld arms dealers would be able to supply a gun for a few days for professional criminals preparing a robbery or a murder. But finding such a supplier would be difficult without contacts.

Kate Broadhurst, a criminologist of the Scarman Centre for the Study of Public Order, Leicester, said: "The sawn-off shotgun is the weapon of choice for the bank robber . . . this is the weapon of the drug dealer and the weapon of the professional criminal."

She said that the gun could have been hired from a criminal armoury for a day or a week. A professional hitman could get hold of it easily, but a jilted lover or a stalker would have great difficulty. "He would have to make a conscious effort. He couldn't walk into a pub in the East End and get one. Your face would have to fit in those circumstances."

Dr Paul Britton, a consultant clinical and forensic psychologist, said that in his experience contract killers used a different weapon from the 9mm semi-automatic used to shoot Miss Dando.

"People think that it must be a contract killer, but a professional contract killer would use a smaller calibre," he said. "For a head shot at short range, a small-calibre gun is more effective."

Murder detective's Crimewatch links

HAMISH CAMPBELL, the detective in charge of the hunt for Jill Dando's murderer, has been a murder detective for more than ten years working in Central London. Recently promoted to Detective Chief Inspector, he is already investigating two of Scotland Yard's toughest cases. One is the sex murderer who attacked and killed 12-year-old Katrina Koneva in her home in Hammersmith two years ago. He worked with the *Crimewatch UK* team as part of the investigation. The other is the search for Gracia Morton, who vanished 18 months ago in Notting Hill.


Campbell: heads team hunting for murderer

Mr Campbell, 41, joined the police in 1974 and became a detective in 1979. He worked in the Anti-Terrorist Branch and also the Yard's Criminal Intelligence Branch before moving to the area major incident team at Kensington. He received three commendations in the early 1990s for his work on murder inquiries, a rape case and for anti-terrorist work.

Record 11m tune into BBC news bulletin

By CAROL MIDGLEY, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

JILL DANDO'S death broke audience records for the *Six O'Clock News*, the BBC programme she once presented.

Nearly 11 million viewers watched Martyn Lewis announce the murder on Monday evening, the highest recorded figure since 1992 and nearly double the average audience. Previously the programme's biggest audience had been 10.6 million when the Queen paid a personal tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales, after her death in 1997.

Figures for the day the Princess died, and for the return of her body to Britain from France, cannot be compared directly because it was a Sunday and the television schedules were swept aside to provide a rolling news service. The audience that day peaked at 9pm with 8.3 million viewers.

However, many viewers said that the level of public shock was reminiscent of that after the Princess's death. Adam Hazelwood, from London, sent an e-mail yesterday stating: "It feels like a déjà vu of the tragic circumstances in Paris two years previous."

A BBC spokesman said that the overwhelming response to Miss Dando's murder was a measure of how much affection and respect the public had for her. At one point condolence calls were flooding into the BBC switchboard in London every two seconds. E-mails were sent to BBC News Online at four a minute and the BBC website registered its highest number of page views — three million — since its launch in November 1997.

Monday's *Six O'Clock News* figures are unconsolidated and may turn out to be higher. That day the *Nine O'Clock News'* audience swelled to just over 10 million and the BBC tribute to Miss Dando that followed was watched by 8.5 million.

A tribute presented on ITV — a channel for which she never worked — by Trevor McDonald at 8pm was seen by 7.8 million. "It just shows the strength of feeling towards Jill," the BBC said.

A steady stream of people signed a book of condolence at BBC Television Centre in West London. More books were opened at BBC offices around Britain to meet demand from those seeking to express sorrow and sympathy.

The next edition of the monthly *Crimewatch UK* will be shown, as planned, on May 18, with Nick Ross presenting it alone. "Jill cared passionately about *Crimewatch UK* as a public service programme and . . . would have wanted the series to carry on," a BBC spokesman said.

Miss Dando will not be replaced as co-host on May 9 of the Bafta Television Awards, which Michael Parkinson will now anchor alone. It will include a tribute.

PEAK TIME

The *Six O'Clock News* usually attracts an audience of between six and seven million and it takes a huge news event to elevate the figures above eight or nine million. On the day the Allies went in to bomb Belgrade last month the figure reached 7.2 million at its peak. When that Tony Blair took over at 10 Downing Street, the figure was just over eight million.

Letters, page 21



Another name is added to the book of condolence at the BBC Television Centre in London yesterday. Books were opened at BBC offices nationwide

Why this death mattered to millions

Valerie Grove says broadcaster was one of a special few who deserve generous tribute

MANY lovely young women are murdered. Some people may have found it bizarre that one sad death should inspire the Queen and the Prime Minister to issue statements, the Home Secretary to address the House of Commons, and so much airtime to be diverted to make way for instant tributes.

My view was that the television coverage of Jill Dando's killing on Monday night was well judged. Such was the unexpectedness of it, if there had been less coverage we would have felt cheated of a conduit for our curiosity to know: where did that bright, energetic, *effervescent girl spring* from? What was she really like? At what stage was her life when it was so brutally cut short? Why would anyone want to kill someone liked by all?

That the Queen should have been moved to comment was interesting on several levels. Perhaps the Royal Family used to find themselves remarking on Dando's likeness to Diana, *Princess of Wales. Perhaps the* Queen often finds herself switching on *Holiday* or *Crimewatch*. Perhaps — I hope not — Her Majesty was pushed to comment because her press office was asked to do so, and was mindful of the misplaced reticence on the last occasion when the death of a blonde thirtysomething caught the sentimental hearts of the nation. I prefer to think that the Queen intuitively recognised that *Dando's shining likeability and pro*ficiency on screen singled her out to merit a royal tribute.

Our reactions to deaths of public figures are not arbitrary. There are some we care about and others we barely blink an eyelid about. Televisual fame confers an aura of intimate friendship on some. We read the obituary pages without feeling much when an aged general or a brilliant professor has reached the end of a long and useful life. On the deaths of sovereigns and statesmen, media coverage is expansive but dutiful. Only a handful of people have the special qualities that cause genuine sorrow and regret among millions at their deaths. Kennedys, John Lennons, Dianas fall into this category, cut off in their prime, afflicting even the most robust and cynical, etching them*selves into the collective memory*.

There is a gulf between the polite regret with which we greet news of some "household name" passing and the involuntary welling of shock and grief that is the true test of whether we care. Most of us, who saw Dando only on the screen, discovered that we cared.

Many terrible crimes go almost un*remarked* — children killed by hit-and-run drivers, helpless pensioners battered to death. It is not heartlessness that causes our apparent indifference but the impossibility of feeling involved in lives that do not impinge on us personally. Then suddenly a death occurs that focuses our fears about contemporary society. Because she stood bravely in the studio appealing for help in solving crime, Dando stood for right versus wrong.

The fact that the news of her death came in the middle of bulletins about the racist bombs in London and the Prime Minister's statement on the Nato summit only pointed up its relevance. Giving us a *means of focusing* our anger and compassion is vital in a vile and violent world. We are desperately moved by the plight of the Kosovo refugees — for whom Dando helped to raise £10 million with a televised appeal. Like the Princess of Wales's efforts for *landmine victims*, it left a final impression of a powerful potential for good snuffed out. That alone merited the airtime.

Flowers form a shrine outside house

BY MICHAEL HARVEY

THE pavement opposite Jill Dando's home yesterday became a flower-decked shrine to the television presenter.

Floral tributes arrived steadily throughout the day in Gowan Avenue, Fulham, West London. By late afternoon more than 50 bouquets lay lining the wall of a neighbour's house.

Chief among them was a *dozen yellow roses sent* by Nick Ross, her *Crimewatch* co-presenter. Using the catchphrase with which he ends the programme, he wrote: "To Jill, we will miss you dreadfully. Do sleep well. Nick."

Next to it was another bouquet from other colleagues on the programme. The card on the dozen red roses said: "With love from the *Crimewatch* team." There were also bouquets from co-workers on the *Holiday* programme which she fronted so successfully.

A large bouquet of pink roses and white tulips had a *Holiday* programme postcard attached with the message: "Dearest Jill, You touched us all. *We'll miss you so much*. With all our love, your friends on *Holiday*. X."

Her popularity among the general public was signalled with a wide range of loving tributes. One from Zhara Behzadi, 8, was decorated with a smiling drawing of the presenter and the inscription: "I was very sad about the sad news. I will miss you." Another inscription with white roses said: "Rest peacefully, Sleeping Beauty". A card with a bunch of pink carnations asked: "Can anyone tell us why? We've lost another English rose."

The flowers were delivered by florists from people as far away as Edinburgh. One large bouquet arrived by black cab. The driver said that a distraught young man had handed them to him at Victoria station, given him £20, and asked him to lay them on the spot where she died.

Kirk opens its arms to prostitutes

Church of Scotland wants moral condemnation switched to kerb crawlers, reports **Ruth Gledhill**

PROSTITUTION is no greater a sin than adultery and more should be done to minister to prostitutes and those who use them, a church report published yesterday says.

The Church of Scotland, urging its members to "love" prostitutes rather than condemn them, is calling for a debate over the decriminalisation of prostitution. It also wants Scotland's new assembly to consider in a kerb crawling law that shifts moral condemnation from the prostitutes to the men who use them.

"Consideration needs to be given to ways in which both men and women can be supported and protected and can be helped to escape from prostitution," says *On Prostitution*, published by the Church's Board of Social Responsibility. "There is no evidence to support the claim that criminalisation reduces the level of prostitution."

The report notes that Jesus was descended from a prostitute, Rahab, and that one of his followers, Mary Magdalen, is thought by some scholars to have been a reformed prostitute.

"While the Church views prostitution as immoral, it is no greater a sin than, for example, adultery," says the report. "The overused maxim, 'Love the sinner, hate the sin,' applies not only to those who prostitute, but also to all of us who sin in other ways."

It continues: "The Church's calling is to affirm God's love for those whose self-esteem has been unimaginably diminished, to draw near them in love and, as fellow sinners, to offer the good news of forgiveness and renewal through faith."

In Scotland, unlike England, kerb crawling is not an offence, but prostitutes can be fined for loitering with intent, soliciting or importuning in a public place. They can then be jailed for not paying the fine.

"There is a body of informed opinion that fining and imprisonment are ineffective, that the offence should be decriminalised by removing the option of a fine which may lead to a criminal record and that alternatives to custody options involving rehabilitation should be introduced," says the report.

The Church decided to address the issue in 1997, shortly before the violent murder of a prostitute in Glasgow, one of a number of such killings in recent years. It comes after reports on gambling and alcohol abuse. One on abortion is also published this week.

The Church says that in Edinburgh an informal "tolerance" zone has been established where women are left relatively undisturbed by police as long as they remain within the specified area and there fewer than ten at a time.

The report, to be debated at the general assembly in Edinburgh next month, says that most women become prostitutes through poverty, homelessness and sexual abuse. "Prostitution, alongside petty theft and begging, is a survival trap into which women can be drawn only too easily," it adds.

There are thought to be about 5,000 prostitutes in Scotland, with 50,000 clients between them. In Glasgow there has been a big increase, from fewer than 100 prostitutes 25 years ago to more than 900 today, because of growing heroin addiction.

Church of Scotland counsellors work with those prostitutes who reach one of their seven drug rehabilitation centres. However, the Church no longer has its Edinburgh "centenary" project, which ran for four years until 1993 and helped prostitutes to find alternative employment.

The social responsibility board is calling on the Church "to consider how a ministry to women in prostitution and to men who use prosаtitutes could be developed". This would take the form of counselling and advice, depending on any available funding.

Ann Allen, chair of the board and wife of the Rev Martin Allen, Minister of Chryston Church near Glasgow, said the Church decided to examine the issue after charities such as Barnardo's and The Children's Society spoke out about the increase in young people turning to prostitution. "One of our major concerns has been how we deal with men who use prostitutes, what their concerns are, why they use prostitutes, how we can help them," she said. "We want to know how we can bring about different circumstances where women never have to resort to prostitution."

The board recommends that projects be set up in Scotland similar to the "John School" at Leeds Metropolitan University, where men arrested for kerb crawling are offered rehabilitation as an alternative to a court appearance. Results indicate that one third of men sent to the school do not reoffend.

MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY



The oldest profession: Glasgow police raiding a brothel in 1871. The Kirk report says that women should be helped to escape from prostitution

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

Most Bible passages condemn prostitution unequivocally. — **Deuteronomy xxiii,18** describes prostitution as "an abomination to the Lord your God". **Proverbs vii** compares a man who uses a prostitute to an ox going to the slaughter, or a bird rushing into a snare. "Her house is the way to Sheol, going down to the chambers of death," says verse 27. Apostates are compared to the children of prostitutes in **Isaiah lvii, 3-5. Revelation xvii** contains a graphic description of a "great harlot", seated on a scarlet beast with seven heads and ten horns.

However, other Bible passages express God's forgiveness of repentant prostitutes. Jesus's ancestor Rahab, a prostitute, was "saved by faith" **(Hebrews xi, 31).** Tamar, posing as a prostitute, was made pregnant by her father-in-law, Judah, who declared her "more righteous than I" **(Genesis xxxviii).** Prostitutes were among those who repented at the preaching of John the Baptist. Jesus said that those prostitutes, along with tax collectors, would enter the kingdom of heaven before some of the religious leaders of his day **(Matthew xxi, 31-32).** St Paul reminds his Corinthian readers that some of them were once prostitutes **(I Corinthians xi).** In **John viii,** Jesus invites any onlooker without sin to throw the first stone at the woman caught in adultery. When the crowd dwindles, he says to her: "Go, and sin no more."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police shoot rampaging bullocks

Police shot dead two escaped bullocks that attacked cars and destroyed gardens during a three-hour rampage through Dudley, West Midlands, on Monday. One of the animals repeatedly rammed a minibus carrying several elderly people, none of whom was injured. Police chased it into the grounds of a factory and shot it.

The other headed the wrong way down a busy road, colliding head-on with a small car before making its way to the Merry Hill Shopping Centre, where it was shot. Police are trying to trace their owner.

Video error

An apology has been sent to parents given a video of a musical performed by pupils at Greycotes School, Oxford, that contained an episode of the Channel 4 series *Queer as Folk*, in which homosexual acts are shown.

Ruddock cleared

The footballer Neil Ruddock, 30, was cleared by Havering magistrates of using threatening behaviour after charges against him and Richard Nelson, 37, were dropped because of "discrepancies" in evidence.

Rank cruelty

Lance Corporal Nigel Horsley, 23, who ironed a hamster before roasting it in a microwave oven, was reduced to the ranks and jailed for 140 days by a court-martial panel at Bulford, Wiltshire.

Dustman killed

A council dustman died when he was knocked down by his own dustcart. The unnamed man was believed to have been run over by a Rugby Borough Council refuse lorry in Wolvey, Warwickshire.

Thames link

John Prescott will start construction today of Central London's first new river crossing this century. The footbridge will link the Tate Gallery of Modern Art with St Paul's Cathedral.

Leading article, page 21

Get 'em young

Parking tickets were put on a Barbie bike and a scooter left by Julia Burgess, four, and her brother Alexander, seven, against the front wall of their family home in Finchingfield, Essex, beside double yellow lines.

Reburial for a man who feared water

By Shirley English

A WOMAN has won her seven-month fight to have her husband's body exhumed from his flooded grave because he was terrified of water in life.

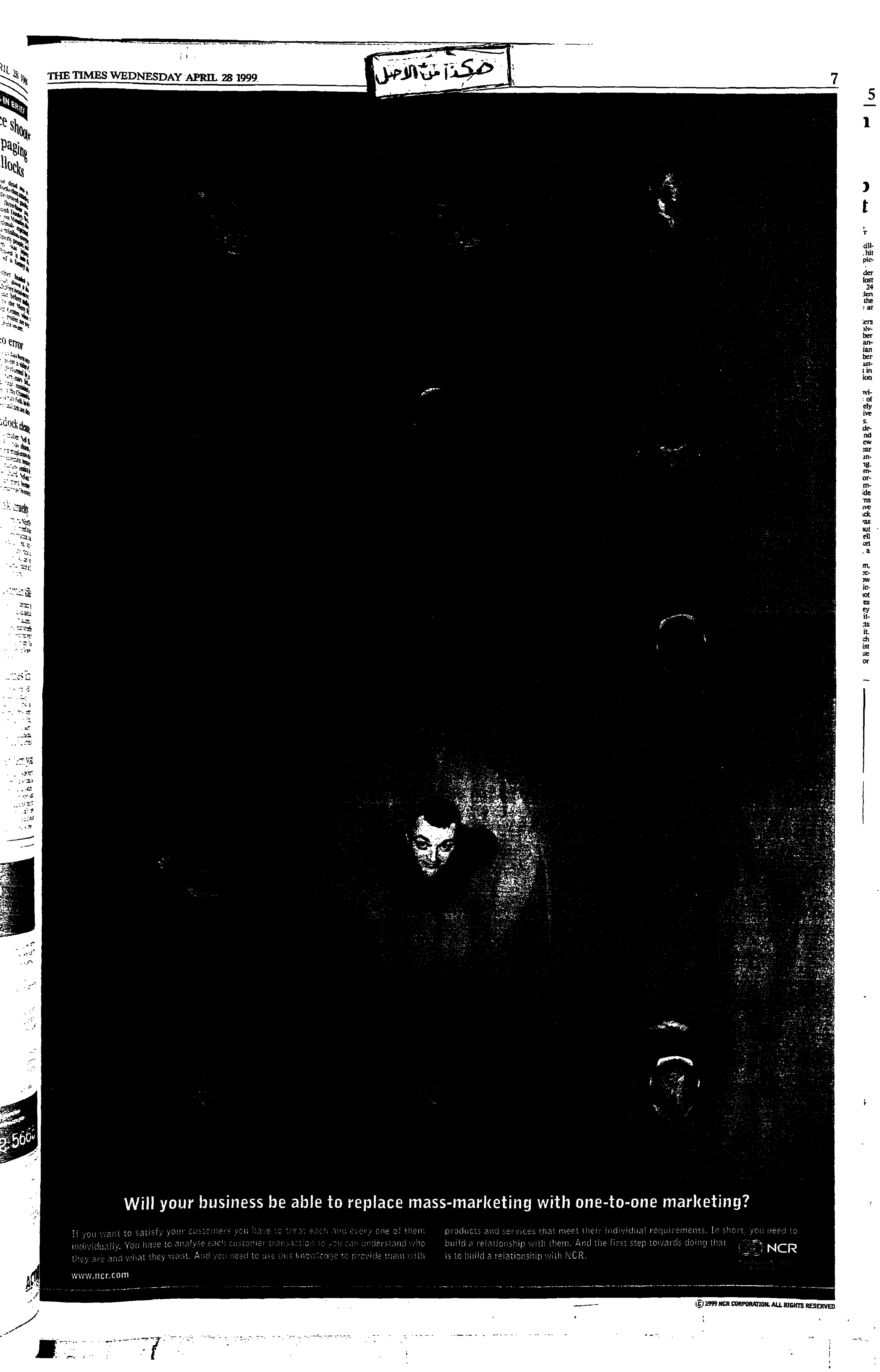
Council workmen reburied Allan Munro, 62, last week in a higher plot in Shawfield Cemetery in Selkirk in the Scottish Borders on Thursday. His widow, Ethel Munro, 57, claimed he suffered from a fear of water after watching his brother drown in 1958.

Flooding at the council-run cemetery came to light at Mr Munro's funeral last year when mourners were distressed to hear water lapping against the side of his coffin as it was lowered into the ground. His widow complained when she returned later and found the flowers and wreaths floating above the grave.

Yesterday she said: "It has been an absolute nightmare and for the last eight months my life has been a living hell. Losing Allan was painful enough, but to know he was lying in 6ft of water was more than I could cope with."

Last Thursday, on the day Mr Munro would have been 63, his widow and three grown-up children stood at his new graveside where a short memorial service was held.

A spokesman for Scottish Borders council admitted there had been a problem with a fractured drainage pipe at the cemetery after heavy rain. It had been repaired, but as a gesture of goodwill the council agreed to pay to move Mr Munro's body.


Will your business be able to replace mass-marketing with one-to-one marketing?
If you want to satisfy your customers you have to treat each and every one of them individually. You have to analyse each customer transaction so you can understand who they are and what they want. And you need to use this knowledge to provide them with products and services that meet their individual requirements. In short, you need to build a relationship with them. And the first step towards doing that is to build a relationship with NCR.
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JUSTICE DENIED

Thanks to a negligent employer she's suffered one body blow.

Now the Government is about to deliver another.

This young girl was disabled by her employers' negligence.

Under the Access to Justice Bill, the legal aid she needs to fund her case against them won't be available.

So what's the point of having rights, if basic access to justice is denied?

This Bill will hit the poorest and most vulnerable – the very people who need legal aid.

To protect their right to justice, ask your MP to lobby for changes to the Access to Justice Bill now. Before it's too late.

RADAR the disability network *Radar, the disability network, shares these concerns about the impact of the Bill.*



THE LAW SOCIETY

Justice for all.

Microchip may signal end of phone towers

A tiny new transmitter could reduce countryside blight, report **Paul Wilkinson** and **Nick Nuttall**

ENGINEERS at Leeds University have developed a transmitter the size of a cigarette packet that could make planning disputes over mobile phone masts a thing of the past.

It uses a microchip which, they say, will also mean a big cut in the signal radiation that is fuelling public concern. Michael Roberts, an electronics researcher who developed the chip, said: "All the equipment necessary to receive and transmit a signal could be included in a box the size of a cigarette packet.

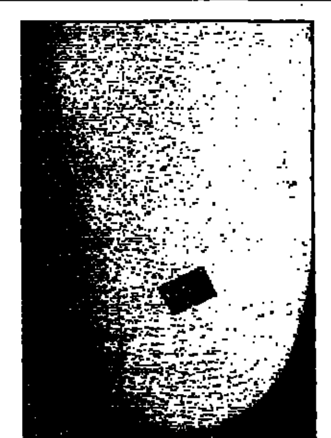
"It would make the transmitters we see in the countryside redundant and drastically improve reception in areas where it is difficult to get a signal. That's because the boxes could be attached virtually anywhere, on a lamp post, a bridge, the side of a building."

A new chip the size of a match head, called a microwave mixer, allows low-frequency signals — a person's voice — to "piggyback" on much higher electronic frequencies, such as those used for radar, which travel at faster speeds. These travel without being distorted, allowing a receiver up to a kilometre away to decode the message.

Stavros Iezekiel, the project leader, said current technology sent slower signals that required larger, more powerful transmitters. "We could have a prototype ready within a year and it could go on sale for as little as £100," he said.

"The interface needed for the boxes would be fibre-optic and that network almost covers the country at present. The usage we envisage would be mostly urban but there is no reason why a village could not have a single box, which would be sufficient."

He said one problem was the need for thousands of boxes to cover the country. "I can't imagine mobile phone companies paying for these boxes to be set a kilometre apart all over the countryside," he admitted. "But I am sure they would be very interested in our research." Dr Iezekiel said there were many applications for the chip, which had taken two years to complete.



The tiny new microchip has many applications

A spokesman for Vodafone, which has 4,500 transmitters, said: "We would be very interested in their research, which sounds as though it could revolutionise the industry."

By the end of this year Britain will have 13,000 relay towers. Henry Oliver, the Council for the Protection of Rural England planning officer, said: "On the face of it, technology which would replace [masts] would be very welcome. For years we have suffered the consequences of a planning system biased in favour of telecommunications companies.

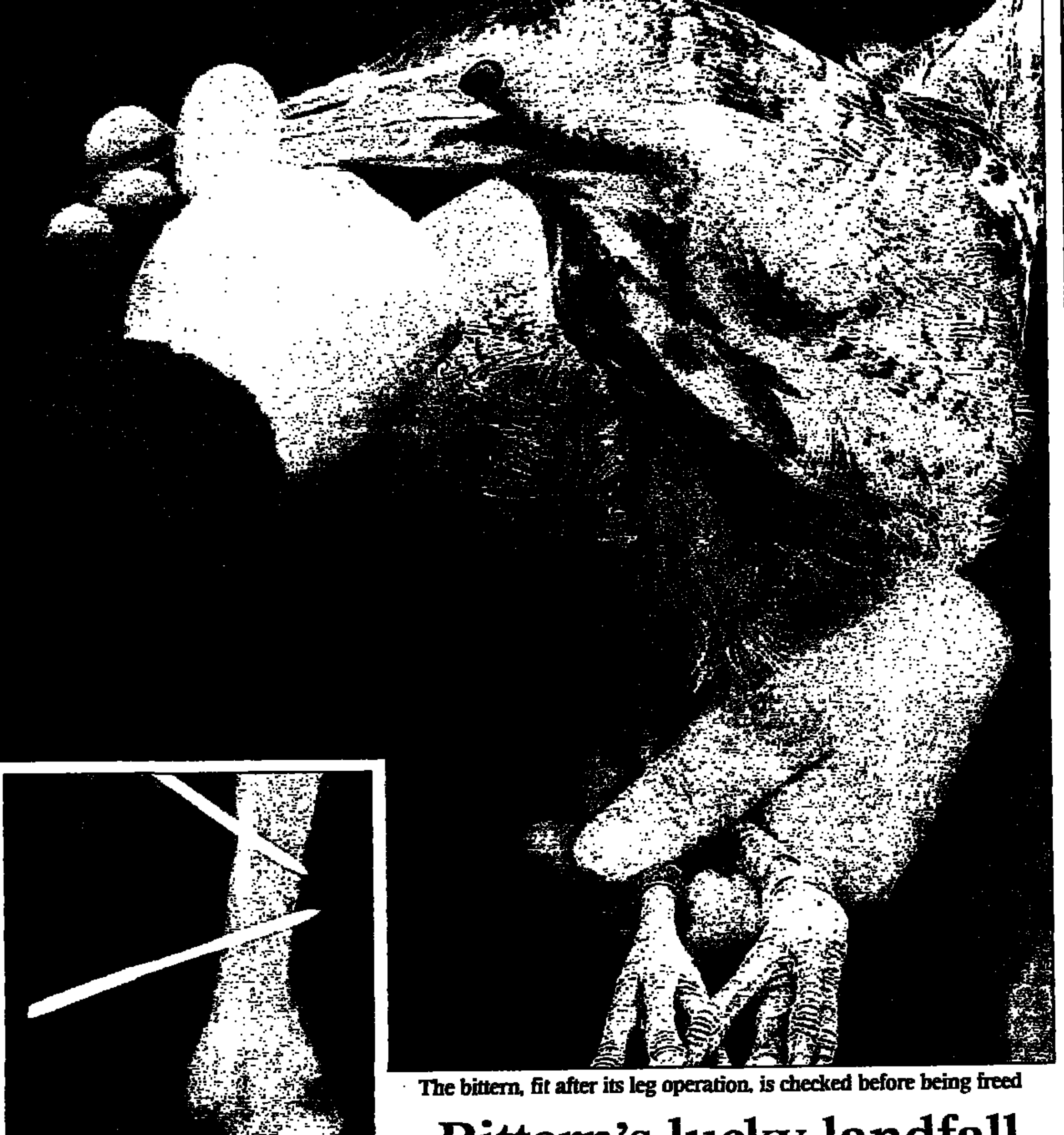
"They should take their corporate responsibilities seriously and this development may mean it is easier for them to have a less damaging impact. We feel these masts should be subject to the same planning controls as anything else. You need planning permission to put up a porch at your house but not to erect an enormous mast in open countryside."

The telecommunications industry, required to cover 90 per cent of the country by the millennium under the terms of its licence, accepts unofficially that it is favoured by planning regulations. Outside designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, towers up to 50ft high are treated as "permitted development". Inside designated areas, planning consent has to be obtained. Where it has been refused, the Department of the Environment has a record of allowing at least two out of three appeals.

One of the most vociferous campaigns against the masts was in the Stour Valley, immortalised by John Constable, overlooking the north Essex village of Dedham. In 1996 three masts up to 70ft were proposed on high ground in this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which protesters claimed would make the landscape that inspired the *Haywain* look like a pincushion.

Protesters fought off the towers sought by Mercury, Cellnet and Orange, but 18 months ago John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, overruled the local council and permitted a 90ft shared tower on the edge of the area.

☐ A planning inspector has rejected a proposal for a mast disguised as a tree at a beauty spot because it would keep its leaves in winter. Mercury Personal Communications applied for an 80ft mast at Huish Woods, near Taunton, Somerset, that would tower 20ft above surrounding trees.



BRUCE SCABROOK

The bittern, fit after its leg operation, is checked before being freed

Bittern's lucky landfall

WHEN one of Britain's rarest birds broke its leg it could not have chosen a better refuge. The bittern, a species usually found only in East Anglia, made a painful touchdown at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust reserve at Slimbridge, Gloucestershire.

The bird's arrival on March 21 caused a flurry of excitement. Reserve staff immediately began trying to catch the shy 30-inch member of the heron family, but even with a broken leg it was elusive and could not be netted until a week later. Then began the job of feeding the bittern to ensure it was fit enough for an operation on its broken leg.

On April 1, Neil Forbes, a vet from Stroud, Gloucestershire, performed an operation to pin the fracture. Last week the pins were removed and yesterday the bittern was released back into the wild.

Clare Warner, of the trust, said: "We like to think he chose to land here because he knew he would get the best possible care. It is good to see him looking so well now."

The species has been in decline in this country since the 1950s.

Executive lifestyles ruining the rural idyll

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

THE middle-class aspiration to escape the suburbs for a detached home on an out-of-town "executive" estate is helping to destroy the countryside, a new report claims.

Once settled in the country, residents are dependent on the car to travel to work in the city and for the simplest journey to the nearest shopping centre or leisure park.

The Council for the Protection of Rural England says that the Government, despite its good intentions, is still encouraging developments that fuel congestion. Its report, *Sprawl Patrol*, concludes that too many greenfield sites that are impossible to get to without a car are being developed.

The result is a general impoverishment of the countryside. The distinctive character of rural England is also being supplanted by a bland suburban landscape.

Lifestyles governed by the shopping centre, business or leisure park mean people in the country are driving greater distances daily, causing traffic noise and pollution to be just as great a countryside issue as they are in towns and cities, the council says.

Lilli Matson, its head of transport, said: "Out-of-town development has fuelled a 40 per cent increase in the length of car journeys in just ten years. The countryside has borne the brunt of the impact and traffic on rural roads has increased at three times the rate of urban areas."

She added: "These trends are set to continue unless local and national governments get tough on the causes of sprawl and rising traffic."

The report highlights problem developments. In Newcastle, for example, the city council is proposing a green belt site of 2,500 "executive" homes and an 80-hectare business park that will generate more than 23,000 daily round trips by road.

Judge in dock as joke falls flat

An after-dinner quip aimed at political correctness upset many who heard it, reports **Frances Gibb**

THE Lord Chancellor is investigating reports of an after-dinner speech at which a judge was heckled and jeered after cracking a joke against political correctness.

Judge Graham Boal, QC, once chief prosecutor at the Old Bailey and now a judge there, was speaking to several hundred judges and barristers at the annual dinner of the Criminal Bar Association. He told a joke about of a white heterosexual barrister who has been severely injured in an accident and wakes up in hospital to be told that various parts of his body have been replaced: he now has the breasts of a lesbian, the backside of a homosexual and a large black penis. "Not to worry," the man is told, "this is just the kind of barrister that is much wanted by the authorities who choose QCs and judges."

One barrister who was at the dinner said: "What a fool. But you know what it is like telling after-dinner jokes — he just went too far." The joke, added the barrister, was enjoyed by some, but went down badly among others. "The CBA is a very sensitive organisation and we are a broad church, so people will be offended by such remarks."

Yesterday a spokesman for the Lord Chancellor's Department said: "Obviously the Lord Chancellor will want to find out the facts of the situation before he does anything else." Judge Boal, 55, was sitting at the Old Bailey and was not making any comment.

He was a leading criminal silk who took all the top cases at the Old Bailey before he was made a circuit judge in 1996. He was vice-chairman of the Criminal Bar Association in 1991-93.


Judge Boal: accused of *damaging profession*

He was counsel for the Director of Public Prosecutions in 1991 when the DPP announced that the Crown would not longer seek to uphold the convictions of the Birmingham Six. In March last year, when jailing six teenagers who killed a youth after tracking him down and setting upon him like wild animals, he said: "This was lynch law of a kind that will not be tolerated on the streets of our cities." He lists his interests as theatre, golf and cricket.

Lincoln Crawford, who chairs the Bar's race relations committee, said that the matter would be raised at the committee's next meeting and, he hoped, taken up with the Lord Chancellor.

"It is absolutely dreadful. If this report is correct, it causes me deep concern. The Lord Chancellor has invested a huge amount of money in racial awareness and gender training for all judges — so for someone so senior to make these comments is very damaging."

Laura Cox, QC, who chairs the Bar's sex discrimination committee, said: "If this is true then it is very, very regrettable. If a judge makes that kind of joke on this sort of occasion before a mixed-gender, mixed-race audience with lots of young practitioners, then recent appointees to the judiciary and to silk who are from the ethnic minorities, or are women or gays, are going to feel very undermined."

Stephen Solley, QC, who chairs the Bar's human rights committee, said that such comments deterred many young ethnic-minority barristers from attending establishment gatherings of the profession, and damaged the image of the judiciary. "It is hugely disappointing that, in this day and age, there are senior judges who still think along these lines. I would have thought they had been put out to grass decades ago."

He added that there were many liberal judges who did not think that way, but such remarks were damaging to the group as a whole.

Value of caring brought home by globetrotter

BY AEXANDRA FREAN, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A FORMER Harlem Globetrotters player, who bought the basketball team after hanging up his training shoes, joined the Prince of Wales yesterday to encourage businesses to do more to help deprived communities.

Mannie Jackson said that nurturing and supporting community organisations was an effective way to create markets for goods and services and to improve a company's public image.

At the 12th annual Community Enterprise Award, run by the Prince's charity Business in the Community, Mr Jackson presented him with Globetrotters vests for Prince William and Harry. Prince Charles said his sons would have to be "genetically modified" to make them tall enough to fit the vests.

Mr Jackson, 59, who was born into poverty in a railway boxcar in Missouri, rose to become director of four companies and was the first black American to own a major international sports and entertainment organisation. He said that the idea of running a business without strong community involvement was "unthinkable".

"My experience as someone who was born in a boxcar was that if I had not seen another way of life and if someone had not taken the time to help me out, I would still be rattling around in the boxcar," he said.

The awards, sponsored by *The Times* and NatWest, honour community entrepreneurs who have created organisations to improve the social and economic circumstances of local people.

The Charles Douglas-Home Award for a large project was won by Antur Waunfawr, a charity in Bryn Pistyll, Gwynedd, which helps people with learning disabilities to find jobs.

The award for a small scheme went to Recycling in Ottery, in Ottery St Mary, Devon. The re-use and recycling centre is financed mainly through sales of aluminium and steel cans, paper, textiles, glass, furniture and tools.

The winners received £1,000 and will travel to the United States to learn about the community enterprise movement there.

ADRIAN SHERRATT



The Prince said his sons would have to be genetically modified to fit the vests given by Mannie Jackson, left

Three-inch Ming cup fetches £2.3m

A CHINESE porcelain chicken cup, a rare example of imperial porcelain only 8.2cms (3.2in) high, sold for £2,329,460 at Sotheby's in Hong Kong yesterday, setting a new world record for Chinese porcelain (John Shaw writes). The cup, from the Chenghua period of the Ming Dynasty (1464-1478), was bought by a London dealer.


The 15th century cup

The Chenghua period lasted just over ten years and marked pieces are rare. They are known as chicken cups because they are decorated with cockerels, hens and chickens.

Yesterday's price toppled a record set on Monday at a Christie's auction in Hong Kong when a buyer paid £1.4 million for a Qing Dynasty porcelain cup from the Yongzheng period (1723-1735).

Mother of dead boy warns of farming perils

By Valerie Elliott

THE parents of an eight-year-old boy yesterday described how their son died when he was buried in their grain store after trying to reach in for his Wellington boots.

Ivor Chambers, 41, and his wife, Kim, 33, of Heath Farm in Bagworth, Leicestershire, told how Mrs Chambers had found her son Benjamin stuck in the grain but had been unable to save him.

They spoke movingly of the incident involving their son's death in September 1996 in an effort to prevent further similar tragedies. Spearheading a drive by the Health and Safety Executive, they urged farming families and visitors to be aware of countryside hazards from tractors to ponds to fertilisers.

Mrs Chambers said she had been cooking supper while Benjamin and his twin brother, Christopher, went out to play. "Christopher came running in and said Benjamin was stuck in the grain. When I reached him he was held fast thigh deep in the wheat."

She said that when she found Benjamin in the grain store, she did not know how to stop the machine. "I tried to pull him clear but could not get enough leverage against the slipperiness of the grain. When he slipped underneath I ran to the machine and banged every button I could see, which stopped it. Even with the machine off, the grain continued to run and, although I dug with my hands, I could not reach my son."

David Mattey, the executive's chief agricultural inspector, called on the farming industry to do more to protect children. "In many cases, members of a child's own family could have prevented the death," he said.



Benjamin Chambers, left, and his twin, Christopher. He was trapped in a grain store

Unilever bows to concern and bans GM food

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

BRITAIN'S biggest food manufacturer announced yesterday that it would remove genetically modified ingredients from its products in response to consumer concern.

Unilever, which owns the Birds Eye-Walls and Van den Bergh companies, said that it could not ignore the sea-change in public opinion over the past three months. Among the firm's 25 products that contain GM soya are Beanfeast, the biggest-selling branded meat substitute, Birds Eye beefburgers and Vesta curries.

Tesco, Britain's largest food retailer, also announced yesterday that it was clearing GM ingredients from own-brand products. A spokesman said: "We think we should be largely GM-free by the end of the year in terms of the 200 products that are own-label." Iceland, Asda, Sainsbury and Waitrose had already decided to drop GM products. Safeway and Somerfield are the last major chains to hold out against the campaign by environmental and consumer groups, chefs and restaurateurs against GM soya, maize and other crops.

Unilever's decision delighted environmental groups. The company said Beanfeast would be GM-free in two months. Other products would switch to non-GM soya or be reformulated over the coming months.

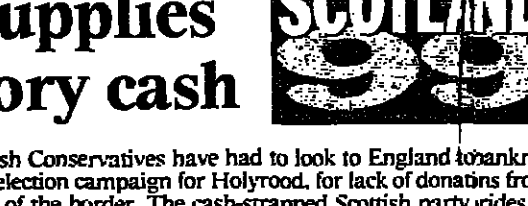
Duncan Bogie, a spokesman for Van den Bergh, said: "Since the beginning of the year we have seen a significant shift in consumer perception." He said there had been a drop in sales and a sharp rise in calls to consumer helplines, which he described as a "sensitive barometer". Labelling of GM foods had heightened consumer awareness, he added.

Lord Melchett, a director of Greenpeace, said: "Unilever's the largest food manufacturer in the world. This sends a clear message to Tony Bl r that he should listen to the power of consumers and ban GM crops." Greenpeace met the heads of Unilever UK on Monday and has had talks with Tesco. The pressure group said it hoped that Unilever's overseas operations would follow suit.

Jack Cunningham, the abi- net Office Minister, yesterday mounted a strong economic defence of the GM industry. He told the Environmental Audit Select Committee that biotechnology could be worth "up to £10 billion" to Britain next year.

Pete Riley, of Friends of the Earth, said the biotechnology industry was mainly medically related, which environmental groups did not oppose.

England supplies Tory cash



Scottish Conservatives have had to look to England to bankroll their election campaign for Holyrood, for lack of donations from north of the border. The cash-strapped Scottish party prides itself in policies "Made in Scotland". But its finances are being sustained by millionaires based in England, who have each donated £50,000 in the past week, it emerged yesterday. The latest declaration of donations under an agreement between Scotland's main parties shows that English donations dwarf what is coming in from Scottish supporters so far.

Labour 'made coalition deal'

Labour and the Liberal Democrats made a secret deal to form a Scottish parliament coalition three years ago, the journalist Donald Macintyre has alleged. In his biography of Peter Mandelson, the former Trade and Industry Secretary, Macintyre said that Tony Blair, Donald Dewar, Mr Mandelson, Lord Irvine of Lairg and senior Liberal Democrats including Paddy Ashdown agreed to "work towards a coalition . . . in the event of Labour getting no overall majority or an unworkably small one".

Bishops soften SNP stance

Scotland's Roman Catholic bishops toned down a pre-election statement because of its strong bias towards the Scottis National Party, it was claimed. The revised pastoral letter voiced "hopes for a new Scotland" on the abolition of nuclear weapons and local control of a Scottish media that reflected "common decency". The bishops also called for free university education.

today's AGENDA

Liberal Democrats host rural Scotland day, Edinburgh Botanical Gardens, this morning, followed by breakfast of Scottish produce. Labour will focus on education. Alex Salmond, SNP leader, will go to the Borders to talk about jobs. Conservatives will attack Labour's tax agenda for roads and fuel

QUOTE of the day

"The people of Scotland are entitled to be told by those who were there exactly what was agreed during this attempted carve-up"

— ***Alex Salmond on alleged Labour/Liberal Democrat meeting on how to handle Scottish election campaign.***

Clinton calls for gun controls

President wants parents brought to book for their children's crimes, reports **Ian Brodie** in Washington

PRESIDENT Clinton yesterday *proposed bringing* criminal charges against the parents of children who commit gun crimes. The idea was among several gun control measures that he sent to Congress, where their chances of becoming law appeared bleak.

Both Democratic and Republican leaders questioned the need for more anti-gun legislation, despite growing sentiment for reforms across America *after last week's school* massacre in Denver.

Mr Clinton's proposal would make it a felony for parents to "knowingly or recklessly allow a child unlawful access to a gun that is later used to cause death or injury".

After the Denver shootings, Sheriff John Stone said that a sawn-off shotgun barrel and equipment for bomb-making were found in plain sight in *the bedroom of* Eric Harris, 18, who went on the rampage at Columbine High School with Dylan Klebold, 17. The pair killed 13 people before *shooting themselves.*

"Parents should be held accountable for their kids' actions," Mr Stone said. His view is widely held, but author*ities* concede that there is no evidence that the parents were in any way involved in the crime. Lawyers said that Mr Clinton's proposal could set a *legal standard of parental* liability that would be difficult to prove in court.

Mr Clinton also wants to require background checks on all buyers of explosives, including dynamite, blasting caps and the black powder used in pipe bombs such as those made by Harris and Klebold.

Inexplicably, present laws prohibit the sale of explosive ingredients to felons, fugitives and stalkers, but do not require any checks that would show whether a buyer was disqualified on such grounds.

Another loophole that Mr Clinton seeks to close is the burgeoning sale of guns by unlicensed dealers at gun shows where no background checks are required. Police in Colora*do suspect that at least one of* the weapons used last week was sold at a gun show to an 18-year-old girl who turned it over to the gunmen.

A government study of more than 300 gun shows found that nearly half the transactions involved criminals and a third of weapons sold were later used in serious crimes.

Among Mr Clinton's other proposals are:

- ☐ *Mandatory child-safe locks* on all guns sold;
- ☐ A lifetime ban on all gun ownership for people who commit violent crimes as juveniles;
- ☐ A ban on importing ammunition clips holding more than ten rounds.

The President's list seems eminently sensible, if tepid by *British standards, but he has* learnt to be cautious about gun control. After he forced a ban on assault weapons through Congress in 1994, his fellow Democrats promptly lost control of the House. The National Rifle Association had responded to those who voted for the ban with a barrage of negative advertising in their constituencies. In Mr Clinton's view, the campaign cost 20 Democrats their seats.

Although stemming the availability of guns would seem an obvious place to start, Tom Daschle, the leader of the Senate Democrats, yesterday cited the Internet, the media and lack of attention being paid to students as other issues that should be studied to solve "an increasingly serious societal problem". He added: "I'm not sure gun legislation is what we need." Similarly, Trent Lott, leader of the Senate's Republican majority, and Dennis Hastert, Republican Speaker of the House, called for a "national conversation" on youth and culture to focus on responses other than gun control.

Not everyone agreed. Ardent reformers on Capitol Hill argued that a growing number of voters want Washington to *follow the lead of those cities* and states where curbs on guns, and lawsuits holding gun manufacturers responsible for mayhem on the streets, are *slowly but steadily gaining* ground.

Letters, page 21



How Kal, the *Baltimore Sun*'s cartoonist, views the prevailing attitude to tighter gun control in America

WORLD IN BRIEF

Britain will police East Timor poll

British police are to help to maintain order when East Timor votes on its future in a UN-managed ballot this summer (David Watts writes). The first groups of police are expected in the territory next month. Derek Fatchett, the Foreign Office Minister, said: "We have to do all we can to see that there's a free and open consultation of the people." President Habibie of Indonesia announced yesterday that he accepted the UN plan for a vote on August 8 by 800,000 East Timorese on whether to accept an Indonesian autonomy package. If they were to reject it, he said, East Timor would become independent.

Mandela in stampede

Johannesburg: President Mandela watched in alarm as thousands of people stampeded towards him, flattening a 12ft-high barbed wire barricade, at a rally to celebrate Freedom Day, a public holiday marking South Africa's first all-race election five years ago (Ray Kennedy writes). More than 20 people were injured, several of them *seriously, in the crush at a football stadium at Umtata in* Eastern Cape province.

Japan angers China

Tokyo: Japan edged towards expanding its military role in East Asia with the passage of controversial Bills that strengthen its security alliance with the United States (Robert Whymant writes). The legislation, allowing Japanese military forces to provide support to US forces in case of "emergency situations in areas surrounding Japan" — the "areas" left vague deliberately — was denounced by *China, which fears an attempt to isolate* and contain it.

Sumo wrestles with fat

Tokyo: Sumo wrestlers will be required to take a test measuring their body fat and told to diet if they are overweight. Ayako Suzuki, of the Japan Sumo Association, said the first test would be administered to wrestlers at the end of the summer tournament next month. The *announcement comes amid a rash of weight-related* injuries and complaints from fans that the sport has become more about fat and less about fight. *(AP)*

Basinger drawn into animal row

New York: Kim Basinger's outspoken support for animal welfare *is being called into* question by the use of circus elephants and a drugged dog in her latest film (James Bone writes).

The actress, Hollywood's leading animal rights campaigner, has just finished shooting *I Dreamed of Africa* in which she plays the Italian conservationist Kuki Gallman. Producers say the film is a *tribute to a woman* who has devoted her life to protecting Africa's wildlife. But during the shoot in South Africa, Basinger, who has fought to ban *elephants from circuses in* America, was said to be surrounded by trained elephants and lions from the local Brian's Circus.

"*I did think it was strange* that an animal rights activist, who feels so strongly about the use of trained animals, would agree to do this movie in the first place," Jim Stockley, the circus's animal trainer, *told New York magazine.* "I also thought it strange that *she never even approached* me to inquire about the treatment of our animals."

In one scene, Basinger appears with a dead dog. Appar*ently the dog had been anaes*thetised by a veterinary surgeon, which would be a breach of guidelines drafted by the American Humane As*sociation for the Screen Actors* Guild.

Basinger's spokeswoman rejects allegations that any animals were mistreated on the *set as "sour grapes".*



Basinger: animal welfare campaigner

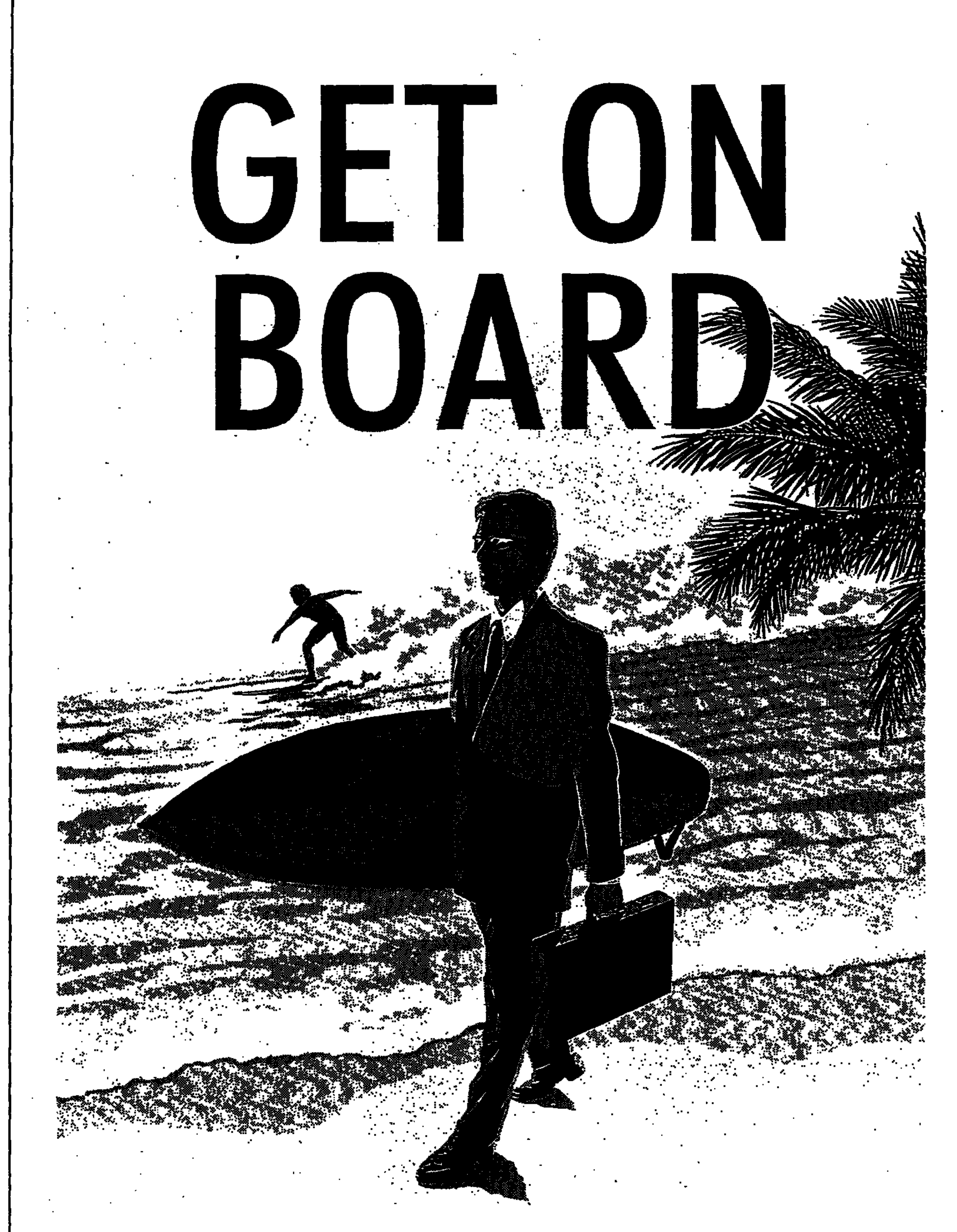
Disney in claims of bonus plot

Los Angeles: One of Hollywood's most feared negotia*tors has launched a personal* attack on the head of the Walt Disney Company, accusing him of underhand plotting to avoid paying a huge bonus *(Giles Whittell writes).*

The men agreed to have a retired judge arbitrate their dispute in a law firm's conference room. Jeffrey Katzenberg, now a *mogul in his* own right at the Dreamworks studio, claims that his unpaid bonus from ten years as head of production at the studio is $250 million (*£153 million*).

Mr Katzenberg's lawyer accused the Disney chairman, Michael Eisner, of authorising a secret 'Project Snowball' to deny him his due. Mr Katzenberg's contract promised him 2 *per cent of revenues* from 700 films made during his tenure, including the $800 million hit, *The Lion King*.

Business report, page 26





Serb military hit by fuel rationing

Belgrade is cutting consumption in readiness for a blockade, writes Michael Evans, Defence Editor

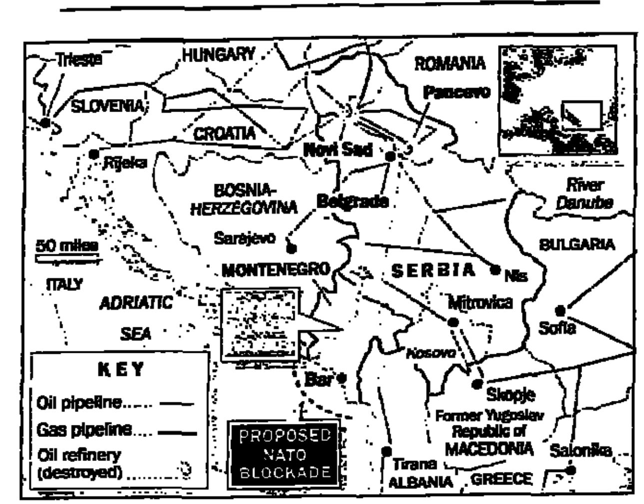
ALL Yugoslav units in Kosovo have introduced emergency measures to preserve their remaining fuel stocks, after the Nato decision to enforce an oil embargo and to stop supplies reaching the Montenegrin port of Bar.

With an agreed European Union oil embargo also affecting Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria — thus cutting off all legal supplies by land — the Yugoslav military has had to take immediate steps to cut back on the use of fuel throughout Kosovo, underlining the importance Bar was playing in Belgrade's calculations. Ten tankers a day have been unloading oil there.

According to Nato intelligence, combined civilian and military oil consumption in the whole of Yugoslavia is now restricted to 32,000 barrels per day. The normal requirement is estimated at 60,000 barrels per day.

Although the Yugoslav Army is not engaged in operations in Kosovo that require much use of fuel — most of its tanks are being used as static artillery — the imminent clampdown on fuel shipments to Bar is expected to impose serious problems for Belgrade's tactics in Kosovo.

Western monitoring of the oil export market has not produced any evidence of frantic orders from Belgrade for refined oil and petrol. But a close watch is being kept so that the Nato warships in the Adriatic taking part in the oil embargo can be tipped off about tankers heading to Bar.



Counter-measures by the Serbs are limited. Although there are other ports in Montenegro, Bar is the only one with the capacity to deal with large oil shipments.

Belgrade has not yet ordered its forces to seize control of the Bar port facilities, although Nato recognises that this is a possibility, which could lead to new tensions between Serbia and Montenegro. The other potential for civil war would be if Serb forces tried to seize Montenegro's oil stocks.

The problem for Belgrade is that even if oil supplies get through Nato's proposed "visit and search" monitoring, fuel tankers driving along the road from Bar to Serbia will provide easy pickings for Nato bombers. The route has 37 tunnels and numerous hairpin bends, forcing heavy lorries to travel at about 2mph. As yet, there is no sign of surface-to-air missile batteries being moved in to defend the road.

The Serbs have shore-based Russian Styx missiles along the Montenegrin coast, but they will not be in a position to threaten Nato warships. The blockade will be enforced well out to sea and not around the port of Bar. The Yugoslav Navy also has four submarines, but only one could be described as operational.

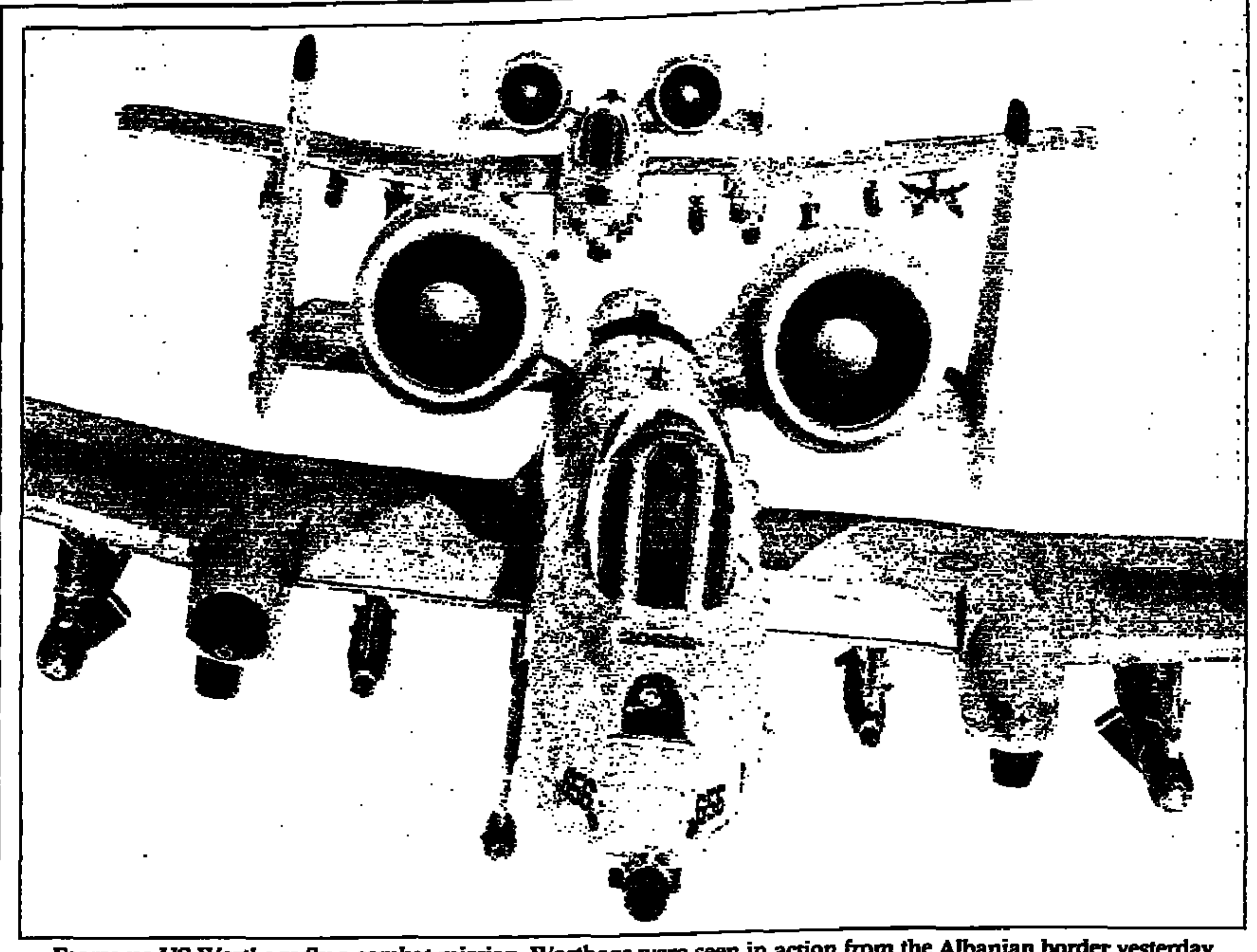
Nato is aware that the eastern route of the Danube could still be used for barges taking smuggled oil supplies to Serbia, but shipments by this method would never make up for the loss of Bar as an entry point for fuel.

The pipeline running from Croatia through Hungary to the two Yugoslav oil refineries at Pancevo and Novi Sad has also been shut off. As the refineries have been destroyed by airstrikes, Belgrade's requirement now is for refined oil and petrol products.

Although it is unlikely that the US Congress will be asked to pass legislation banning oil exports to Yugoslavia, American petrochemical companies are unlikely to sell oil once the military action begins.

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Leading article, page 21

GREG DAVIS / REUTERS



Fearsome US Warthogs fly a combat mission. Warthogs were seen in action from the Albanian border yesterday

Harriers dodge heavy-calibre flak on raid

By John Phillips in Gioia del Colle and Our Foreign Staff

RAF Harrier jump jets came under heavy-calibre anti-aircraft fire for the first time yesterday, but carried out a cluster bomb attack on a military storage area in Kosovo, the RAF said.

The pilots from No 1 Fighter Squadron based in southern Italy dodged through the flak bursting as close as 200 yards away during the raid near Pristina on a virtually cloudless day, an RAF spokesman, Group Captain Glenn Edge, said. He estimated that the shells fired at the Harriers were of 20mm to 40mm calibre. "It was the kosher gear. It wasn't one man lying on his back firing his Kalashnikov."

At least two US A10 "Warthog" tank-killer jets circled the skies over Kosovo yesterday in action against Serb forces, in sight of the Albanian border, and several explosions were heard from the Morini border post, 12 miles northeast of the northern Albanian town of Kukes.

***Yesterday the vaunted fleet of 24* Apache attack helicopters was reduced without Serb forces firing a shot when one crashed in a mountain area northeast of Tirana airport. The two pilots were said to be "in good condition".**

Kosovo boy took British doctors to mass grave

From Stephen Farrell in Stenkovec

A BRITISH doctor was shown a mass grave in Kosovo by a child who lost all 22 members of his family in a massacre by Serbs last year. Dr Mark Twite, 30, who is working at a refugee camp in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, said yesterday that he and Dr Ann Jones, now working in Albania, had been shown the burial site last September.

The account will ultimately be passed to war crimes investigators, but the doctors have so far refused to identify the town or the five-year-old because he is believed to be still in Kosovo and therefore at risk.

Dr Twite, a paediatric registrar from the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, is experienced in working with street children abroad. Last year he helped to run two mobile clinics in Kosovo treating children for shrapnel, bullet and mine injuries and general childhood infections; he was evacuated back to Britain when Nato airstrikes began. Unable just to watch the refugee tragedy unfold on television, he volunteered to work in the camps and is now programme manager with the International Medical Corps, in charge of primary health care for 17,000 Kosovans at the camp at Stenkovec.

He had first learnt of the massacre through Dr Jones's work as a child psychiatrist for Child Advocacy International. When the boy was asked where his family were killed, he led them to the graves, which had been dug by friends. Dr Twite said: "His entire family was massacred — shot. He is the sole survivor; he ran away. We think he is still in Kosovo.

"A lot of war crimes have been documented. I can tell you about endless children who have lost family members and children who have witnessed massacres and horrible things happening. I have no reason to doubt them, not when they can take you to see the graves of their family."

Now safely out of Kosovo where, he says, a common Serb tactic was to poison wells by throwing dead animals into them, Dr Twite faces medical challenges with the threat of cholera and disease in the overcrowded Macedonian camps. Unicef has begun a programme to vaccinate 8,900 children under the age of five in the camps against infectious diseases such as polio and measles.

Lack of space to expand the refugee camps means sanitation could become a serious problem. "Cholera is not so far away and it would decimate the camps, especially with summer coming."

The United Nations refugee agency was trying last night to find room for 3,500 Kosovans who arrived at the border when there is little space in the transit camps.

Tempers flare in teeming camps

From Richard Owen in Tirana

AS MORE of the 350,000 Kosovo refugees in Albania are moved away from the border for fear of Serb shelling, discipline is beginning to break down in some of the overcrowded inland refugee camps, with reports of fights between desperate refugees and local Albanians accused of stealing aid supplies.

The Albanian Government said the aid agencies, especially the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, were "mishandling" the crisis. "If we had relied on UNHCR alone, there would have been famine and chaos in Albania by now," Pandeli Majko, the Prime Minister, said. He said "disaster" had been averted only because Western governments had sent troops to help in protecting relief supplies.

But Ariane Quentier, of UNHCR here, said that it could "not work miracles ... We are working with the Albanian authorities as best we can. But we only provide tents, food and medicines. We cannot act as a police force."

Refugees in Tirana said that there was "never much love lost" between Kosovo Albanians and the people of Albania proper. "Kosovo Albanians are better educated," one said. "The Albanians have given us refuge, but many resent our presence."

But others blamed the "boredom factor". Tahir Povataj, 60, said: "We have football matches, but it's not enough to absorb the energies of cooped-up young men."

هكذا من الأصل

BALKANS SUMMARY



Milosevic comes out of hiding in Belgrade to lay a wreath to fallen soldiers yesterday

Media tower hit again

Nato bombers yesterday attacked television transmitters in Belgrade for the second time (Michael Evans, Defence Editor, writes). Witnesses in Belgrade said that, after a Nato bomber flew over the city, an explosion destroyed the television and radio antennae on top of the 23-storey building. Nato said its intelligence revealed that the station was doubling as a message system for Serb forces in Kosovo after the damage to Belgrade's military *command-and-control* network following weeks of Nato bombing.

US sends in 'citizens'

Washington: America ordered its "citizen soldiers" into the Kosovo conflict for the first time, with the mobilisation of up to 33,000 military reservists (Ben Macintyre writes). The initial call-up will summon at least 2,000 reserve Air Force personnel to fly and maintain 30 extra refuelling aircraft deployed this week. They are expected to leave for Europe next week.

British land in Greece

Salonika: British forces unloaded military vehicles — and hundreds of British troops arrived by air — in this port city in northern Greece to reinforce Nato troops stationed in Macedonia. The military vehicles, including reconnaissance vehicles, arrived on board the *Sea Centurion*, which was also carrying 30 containers of military equipment. *(AP)*

Hungary to take tankers

Budapest: Janos Szabo, the Hungarian Defence Minister, said that Nato would base 20 airborne tankers in his country to refuel warplanes in the air. "Now Yugoslavia is surrounded 360 degrees and cannot know from what direction an attack will come," he told a news conference. He said there had been no official request for warplanes to be stationed. *(Reuters)*

Russia wooed with role for international force

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE EDITOR, AND TOM WALKER

BRITAIN has signalled that it will approve a United Nations Security Council resolution for an international force for Kosovo which makes no reference to Nato. The concession, which is likely to be supported by other alliance governments, is part of a new drive to find a form of words that will be acceptable to Russia.

Moscow is being relied upon to put pressure on Belgrade to back down and meet Nato's five demands, which include the presence of a military force to oversee the return home of Albanian refugees.

Foreign Office sources said yesterday that Britain now accepted that any future Security Council resolution covering a peace force for Kosovo could not emphasise the role to be played by Nato if Russia was to give its official backing.

That concession, however, did not change the view, approved by all alliance governments, that the force for Kosovo should still be led by Nato and that Nato troops should form its core.

The British move has underlined the diplomatic efforts now under way to bring the Russians into the forefront. Although the airstrikes will continue, Moscow will be encouraged to play a bigger role in dealing with Belgrade on the diplomatic side.

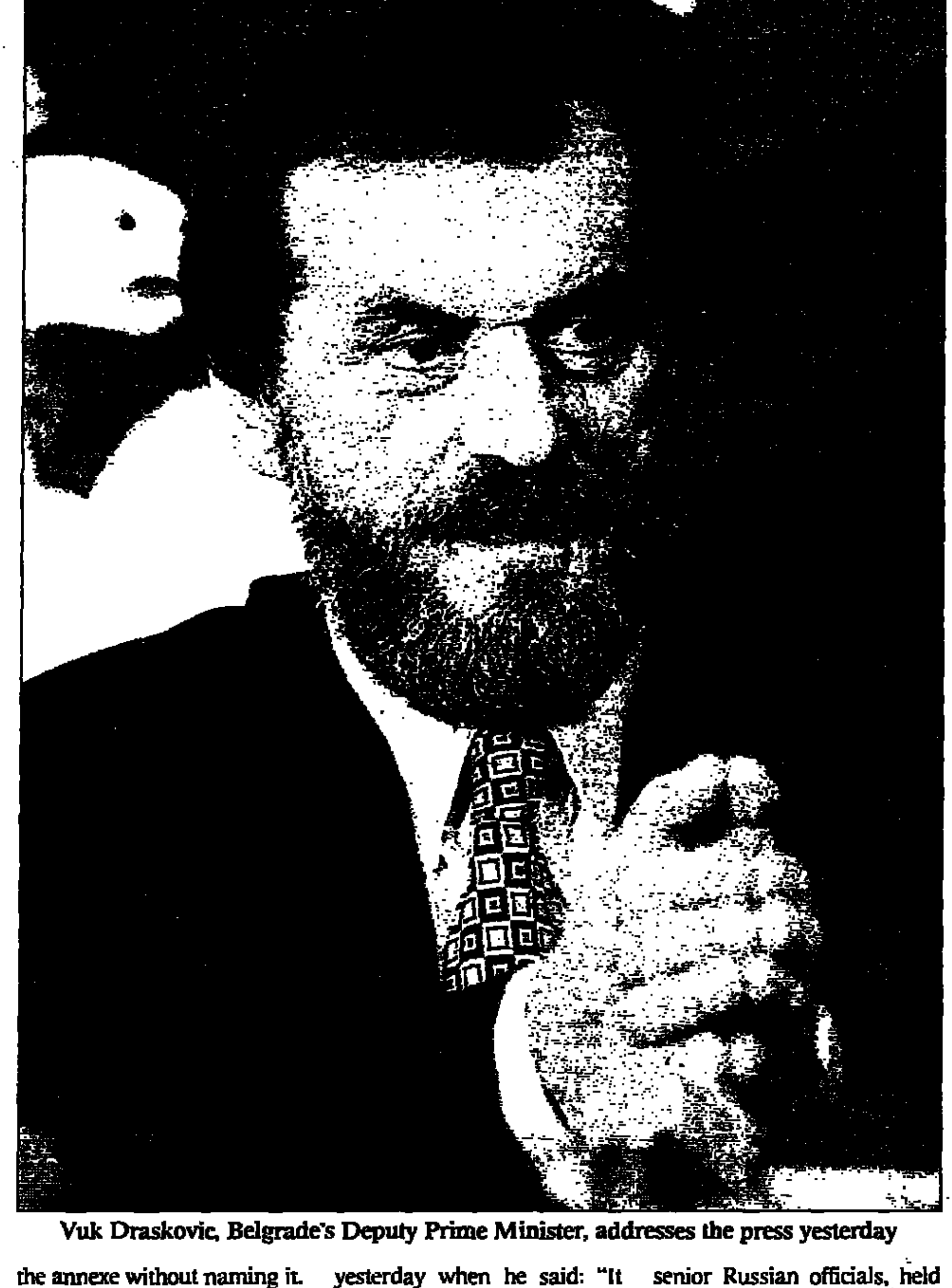
After the Dayton Peace Accords were signed in December 1995, bringing the Bosnian war to an end, the Security Council approved a resolution which also made no direct reference to Nato, and Russia agreed to contribute troops to the peace implementation force (Ifor). Russian soldiers were deployed to the north of Bosnia in the American-commanded section, and it was agreed that they would come under American, rather than Nato, control.

However, the Dayton Accords had a military annexe which specifically named Nato, although the Security Council resolution 1031 referred to "the organisation" in the annexe without naming it. Whether such word games will meet the approval of the Russians this time is unclear. Moscow will be in no doubt that Nato is determined to lead the force into Kosovo. So, too, will President Milosevic.

William Cohen, the US Defence Secretary, spelt that out yesterday when he said: "It must be an armed, international peacekeeping force, and we believe it must be led by Nato."

Yesterday Strobe Talbott, the US Deputy Secretary of State, who was in Moscow to discuss the issue of a multinational force for Kosovo with senior Russian officials, held intensive talks without any apparent breakthrough.

Viktor Chernomyrdin, the former Russian Prime Minister who is heading Russia's peace efforts, repeated Moscow's position that the airstrikes had to stop to clear the way for talks with Belgrade.



SERGEI SUPINSKY / EPA

Vuk Draskovic, Belgrade's Deputy Prime Minister, addresses the press yesterday

As a reminder that Nato has no intention of stopping the bombing, General Wesley Clark, the Supreme Allied Commander, gave a warning yesterday that the air raids carried out so far, since March 24, were "only a fraction" of what was to come over the next few weeks.

Mr Talbott said that the talks in Moscow went well, but gave no details. Apart from Mr Chernomyrdin, he also met Igor Ivanov, the Foreign Minister, and spoke on the telephone to Yevgeni Primakov, the Prime Minister.

Although the main focus is now on the Russians to bring pressure to bear on Belgrade, the Foreign Office sources said that if Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, decided to become more involved personally, the Government would not stand in his way. "We feel this is a judgment that Mr Annan has to make, but we would certainly not object if he decided to go to Belgrade," one source said.

Mr Annan is due to visit Russia on Thursday and will meet Mr Chernomyrdin and other Russian officials.

Vuk Draskovic, Yugoslavia's Deputy Prime Minister, repeated yesterday his belief that a UN peace force was the way ahead for Kosovo.

His pro-Western leanings were met with a tirade of abuse from the Serbian Radical Party, which dubbed the former dissident novelist a traitor.

Mr Draskovic admitted that he had not talked to Mr Milosevic about the UN force, but he claimed that the Yugoslav leader had discussed the idea with Mr Chernomyrdin last week, although the state media had not carried the news.

Mr Draskovic repeated that he personally did not wish to see Nato troops in a UN force for Kosovo, but he said that Yugoslavia should abide by the decisions of the UN Security Council.

He said: "I think President Milosevic is ready, and must be ready, to accept a Security Council resolution. They will decide the composition of the force."

'Danger man' declares war on Schröder

Lafontaine is exploiting anger over Nato, writes Roger Boyes

Once dubbed the most dangerous man in Europe, Oskar Lafontaine is staging a comeback and is about to challenge the German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, over his support for Nato airstrikes in Kosovo. Herr Lafontaine, who suddenly and mysteriously resigned from his posts as Finance Minister and Social Democratic Party chairman six weeks ago, has promised to address the Kosovo issue in a May Day speech to trade unionists.

This week he made plain that his sympathies were with those Social Democrats who are unhappy about the Nato campaign. "I blame myself for not raising earlier the whole topic of alternatives to the war in Kosovo. That was a mistake. I was behaving out of a false sense of loyalty."

German concern at the Nato bombing is growing by the week but has yet to find a political voice. Herr Lafontaine, regarded as a loose cannon by the Schröder team, could ride back to political prominence on the back of popular discontent about the war. An opinion poll by the Emnid Institute yesterday showed that only 41 per cent of Germans favour continuing airstrikes, with 34 per cent against. At the beginning of the war, public support was well over 50 per cent. Only 17 per cent of Germans are now in favour of sending ground troops to Kosovo.

There is even unease about mounting a sea blockade since this is regarded as risking a direct confrontation with Russia. Joschka Fischer, the Foreign Minister, says that a sea blockade would require parliamentary approval in Germany.

The brittle state of public opinion is reflected in the two ruling parties, the Social Democrats and the Greens. Some political analysts see May 13 — the day when the Greens hold a party conference on the war — as the probable breaking point for the Government. Members of the Green Party are furious with the role of Herr Fischer — their de facto leader — in backing a war against President Milosevic.

Diplomats expect a Serbian peace initiative just before the congress as a tactical ploy to bring down the German Government. But the protesters have seen their influence dwindle in the Green Party and the most likely outcome of the May 13 congress is that Herr Fischer will be mandated to try harder to find a diplomatic solution in the Balkans.

Opponents of the war may find a champion in Herr Lafontaine. He is using his native Saarland as a political base. At the weekend he appeared on the podium of the Saarland Social Democrat Party and was given thunderous applause.

The May Day speech is only the first part of the planned comeback. Herr Lafontaine has accepted invitations to make other speeches, including at a Franco-German meeting on May 14, the day after the Green congress.

Herr Schröder's dream of an Oskar-free republic is crumbling quickly. No matter that the most dangerous man in Europe now lives in Belgrade rather than Saarbrücken; the Chancellor's advisers are trying to unearth an official post to neutralise the restless politician. The only suitable position would be as Ambassador to Israel but friends say Herr Lafontaine will not be lured into exile abroad.

Serbs use toxic gas, say mercenaries

Volunteers for Kosovo face a grim death, writes Michael Binyon

MERCENARIES recruited in Britain to train the Kosovo Liberation Army say that the Serbs are using chemical weapons in Kosovo.

Two British recruits, filmed in Albania after weeks spent instructing Albanian volunteers arriving to fight in Kosovo, said they saw Serb shells landing about 150 yards away and KLA fighters immediately falling to the ground. They told the BBC *Newsnight* programme that they were convinced that the six men had been overcome by poison gas. The Serbs had apparently resorted to chemical weapons after heavy losses, estimated at more than 200 soldiers in the past two weeks of fighting.

Britain said yesterday that it had long been aware that Serb forces were using riot control agents — probably CS gas. It was also known that the former Yugoslavia had been engaged in chemical weapons research, and that Serbia had inherited small stocks of such substantances. These could include mustard gas or nerve agents. The status of these weapons today was unknown, but the Ministry of Defence said its assessment of the danger was low.

But a spokesman said it had received reports that the Serbs might be using blistering agents. A refugee in Albania was being treated for blisters on the hands and feet. "We are taking this very seriously and working hard to establish the facts," the spokesman said.

General Sir Charles Guthrie, Chief of the Defence staff, said yesterday that it was too soon to say whether there was evidence suggesting that the Serbs were using chemical weapons. Their use is outlawed under the Geneva Convention and the recently signed international treaties banning the use of chemical and biological weapons.

The two British recruits, a Londoner and a Scot who refused to give their names or be filmed in full light, also revealed that foreign volunteers and mercenaries were arriving from Europe and America at the rate of 200 a day to fight for the KLA. But they gave a warning that those recruited in Britain, as they were, could fall foul of a feud between two factions of the KLA battling each other for control of the guerrilla army.

The Kosovo Information Centre, which was named by *Newsnight* as the recruitment centre in London for mercenaries, denied yesterday that it had sent anyone to fight in Kosovo. Isa Zymberi, its director for the past nine years, said that he referred all those offering to fight to the KLA's representative in Britain. "We have had a lot of mercenary offers," he said. "But in principle we never wanted them."

The two British mercenaries told *Newsnight* that they had been unable to do their job properly as volunteers were being sent to fight the Serbs after only three days training, with rusty weapons and almost no military experience.

Britons boost Nato press operation

BY ROLAND WATSON, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH government influence over Nato's communication strategy strengthened yesterday with the secondment of more civil servants to the alliance's Brussels headquarters.

Alastair Campbell, the Prime Minister's official spokesman, is spending the best part of the week there, with Hilary Coffman, a Downing Street press officer.

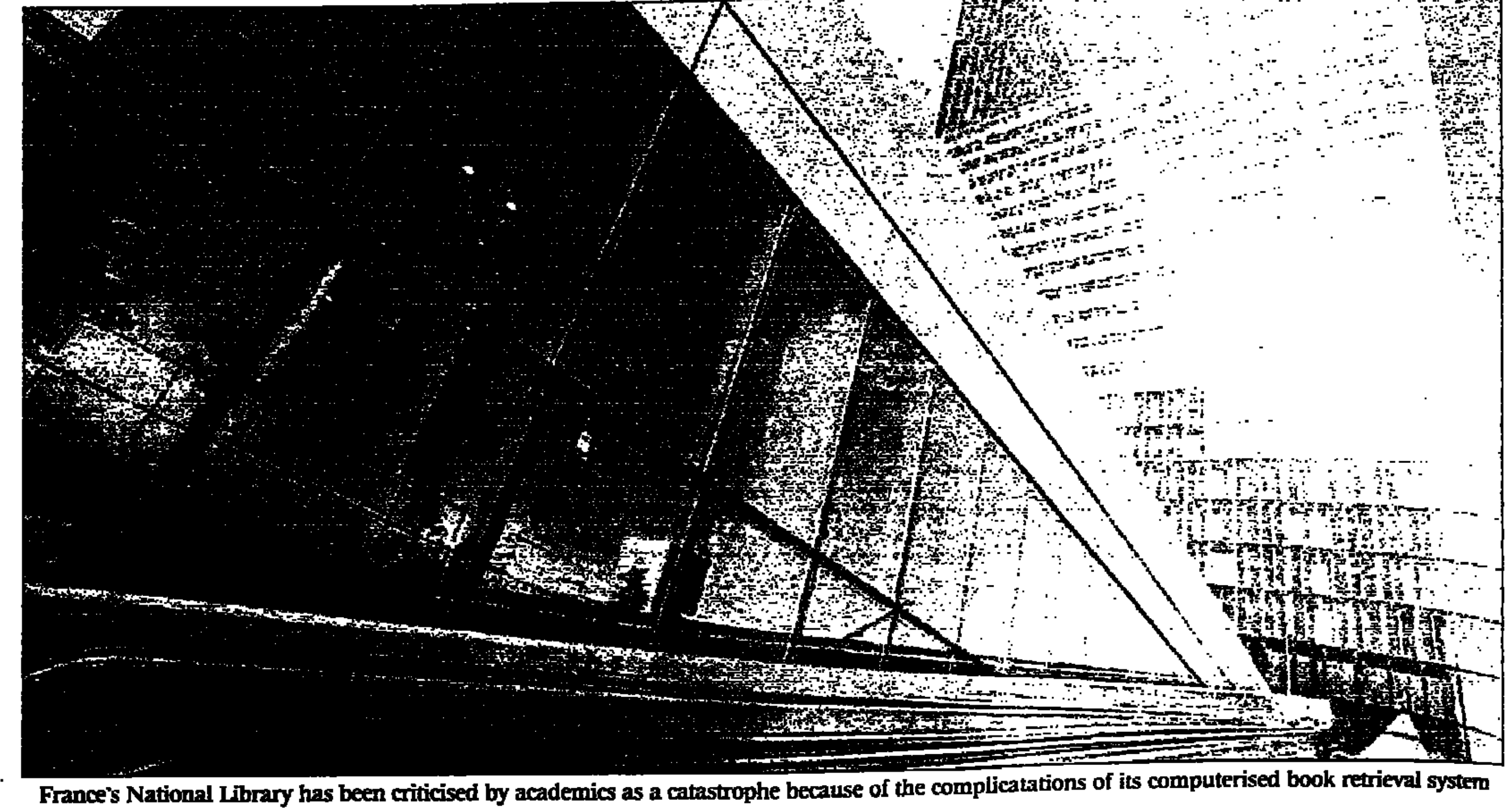
Two Scottish Office officials have also been moved to Brussels indefinitely. They join Julian Braithwaite, Downing Street's foreign affairs press officer, who is now based full-time at Nato.

This week Mr Campbell will spend his longest stint yet at Nato. Normally he is wedded to Mr Blair's side, so the decision is a measure of the concern at Nato's failure to get its message across effectively and at its comparatively poorly staffed press operation, headed by Jamie Shea. Mr Campbell was called in earlier this month by Javier Solana, the Nato Secretary-General, to help to co-ordinate that operation. His arrival coincided with Nato's decision to explain fully the bombing of a civilian convoy.

Yesterday Downing Street played down any suggestion of a British Government takeover. "Jamie Shea is still in charge," a spokesman said. "Alastair is the Prime Minister's chief press spokesman and, as you would expect in a conflict of this sort, he is getting involved in the co-ordination of communications."

£830m library where you can't find a book

Grand vision turns to farce, writes **Adam Sage** in Paris



France's National Library has been criticised by academics as a catastrophe because of the complicatations of its computerised book retrieval system

FRENCH academics were in despair yesterday as the country's showcase National Library plumbed new depths of absurdity and incompetence.

Writing in *Le Figaro*, three eminent professors denounced the building that was President Mitterrand's most extravagant brainchild as a "sinister farce" that had undermined the edifice of French research.

Their attack came as the French parliament set up an inquiry into an Fr8 billion (£830 million) project that Mitterrand once said would give rise to the "world's biggest and most modern library".

With Parisians joking that, in the two years since its opening, it has turned into the world's biggest fiasco, MPs will report on the series of floods, strikes and fist-fights between frustrated users and bad-tempered staff.

They will also try to explain the extraordinary computerised obstacle course that prevents all but the most determined from obtaining any of the 11 million tomes stored in the grandly named Bibliothèque Nationale de France-François Mitterrand.

Yesterday, at the foot of one of the four glass L-shaped towers that constitute the library, Cécile de Bary, 32, was engaged in an heroic struggle with the information system in search of half a dozen works housed somewhere in the 295ft tower. After 15 minutes surfing on a public computer screen, she had got nowhere. "*Non, non, non*," she groaned, wringing her hands in a Gallic gesture of dismay.

"It's going to take me at least an hour to track down the books and I've only been able to reserve a reading desk for Friday, so I will have to come back then. It's terrible. No, it's worse than that."

In January, anger at the £42 million computer system exploded as researchers attacked staff, badly injuring a pregnant employee who lost her baby as a result.

The 2,500 staff went on strike for the second time in three months and were persuaded to return only when the management said it would shut the library on Mondays to ensure a stress-free start to the week. But that fuelled the fury of academics who said they would have even less chance of finding their books.

Their mood darkened further during the March rains when the library's basement was flooded, causing concern that ancient manuscripts could be in danger. In *Le Figaro*, the three professors, Michel Crouzet, Marie-Madeleine Fontaine and Anne-Marie Lecoq, described the building as being like the *Titanic*. International academics were being driven away because they could not retrieve documents from the library, they said. "Everyone knows that it is no longer worth coming to work in Paris. The situation is a veritable catastrophe."

"This place is completely mad: the worst library I've ever come across," said Stephan Albrecht, 36, a lecturer in the history of art at the University of Tübingen in southern Germany. "It's hard to get the books, and when you do, they are often the wrong ones."

LINKS

http://www.bnf.fr French National Library
http://www.culture.fr The French Culture Ministry
http://portico.bl.uk/welcome.html The British Library's online information server

THE HIGH PRICE OF A FIASCO





President Mitterrand, right, spared no expense in his determination that the £830 million Bibliothèque National de France — François Mitterrand should surpass its British rival at St Pancras in North London. The chairs at reading desks cost £300 each and the lamps were more than £700. The annual running cost is £125 million.

Gestapo man 'sickened' by firing squad

FROM TONY PATERSON IN BERLIN

A FORMER member of the Gestapo told a German court that he "felt sick" when ordered to join a Nazi death camp execution squad and avoided firing a single shot in an extermination campaign in which more than 17,000 Jews were murdered.

Alfons Götzfried, 79, has denied aiding and abetting the murder of thousands of Jews at the Majdanek camp in Nazi-occupied Poland, despite having admitted to British police in an earlier investigation that he had shot dead 500 people.

"I did not fire a single shot," he told the court in Stuttgart, on the first day in what is believed will be Germany's last big war crimes trial. "I immediately felt sick and collapsed. I had to be given medicine. Because of this I was given the job of loading rifle magazines. The whole thing was sad and evil," he added.

Herr Götzfried, an ethnic German born in Ukraine, has testified as a witness at several Nazi war crimes trials in Russia and Britain since moving to Germany in 1991. He was taken into investigative custody by the German police last year.

Prosecutors maintain that he took an active part in "Operation Harvest Festival", a Nazi campaign of mass executions by firing squad that was designed to rid Poland of its entire Jewish population.

Kurt Schrimm, the state prosecutor, told the court how, in 1943, inmates of Majdanek camp were brought to mass graves near the camp crematorium. "They were ordered to undress and were shot dead in groups in front of the other victims," he said.

Herr Schrimm said that Herr Götzfried himself shot dead about 500 victims and helped to kill the rest by reloading weapons for other firing-squad members. He said that although Herr Götzfried had been obeying orders, he was fully aware that his superiors were motivated "particularly through a complete disregard for the lives of Jews".

Herr Götzfried had admitted the killings under questioning by British police, but German prosecutors have said they cannot charge him with murder because of a lack of supporting evidence and his low rank in the Gestapo.

Herr Götzfried told the court that he joined the *Wehrmacht* in 1941 after the invasion of the Soviet Union and was employed as a groom. He was assigned later to a special Gestapo unit before being taken prisoner by the Red Army in 1945 and serving 13 years in a Soviet prison.

Bank link to Nazi gold

THE Central Bank of Argentina may have stashed Nazi gold after the war (Gabriella Gamini writes). Research by an independent commission investigating the country's role as a haven for Nazi war criminals has found a letter from the Foreign Ministry authorising the bank to accept Nazi gold in 1946. Ignacio Klich, head of the commission, said it was the first tangible evidence of such a link.

Flex your financial muscles



Personal Finance Editor **Anne Ashworth** on the best ways to improve your puny savings and feeble pension provision; why it pays to buy a used car; and which mutuals are ripe for carpetbagging

Fashion features announcing that we should all be wearing string bikinis this summer will be spurring thousands into diet and exercise programmes. This seasonal fear of exposing flab is not an exclusively female preoccupation. Even men who, for most of the year, believe that their intellect is their strongest suit will be investing in videos promising buns of steel.

But some men and women are embarking on a different schedule. They are in training for the financial fitness test. This is the Easy Money get-fit programme, targeting four areas of your finances. All the moves are easier than pulling your belly button in to your spine, part of the Pilates exercise system. (I speak from personal experience.)

■ **BANKS:** Going into the red without permission, or exceeding your overdraft limit, is amnesia at its most expensive. You can expect to pay an interest rate of as much as 30 per cent, plus an extra monthly fee. There may be additional charges, such as £25 for each unpaid cheque.

If you need to borrow in the short term, consider swapping to a low-interest credit card. People's Bank has an introductory rate of 6.9 per cent. The rate at RBS Advanta cards is 5.9 per cent. For longer-term borrowing, a personal loan can be cheaper than an authorised overdraft, where rates of 19 per cent are common. Ask your bank and several of the new names in the sector, such as Prudential's Egg and Tesco, for quotes. You can borrow £5,000 over three years from Tesco's banking division at 11 per cent.

Another way to enrich your bank is to use its rivals' cash machines; some banks charge for this and a fee of £1.50 is typical. Ask your bank where you can withdraw your money for free and speed-walk to these machines. Barclays' customers, for example, can withdraw money without charge only at Bank of Scotland, Lloyds and Royal Bank of Scotland machines.

Internet banking services, on offer now at Citibank, Lloyds, The Royal Bank of Scotland and, within weeks, at Barclays, are not only for anoraks. You can check your balance, pay bills and change standing orders at almost any hour. There is no fee, apart from the cost of the telephone call to link to the service.

■ ***BILLS:*** A moderate amount of exertion should help you to shrink your electricity, gas, insurance and mortgage bills.

Little is straightforward in the newly deregulated energy market. But you can save either by paying your existing supplier by direct debit, or by changing supplier. For details of these new suppliers see the *Which?* factsheets on the website of Offer, the electricity regulator. According to *Which?*, a British Gas customer using the average amount of gas will pay £357 if he pays by cheque, £324 if he pays by quarterly direct debit and £312 if he pays by monthly direct debit. Switching to London Electricity, the bills would be £62, £38 and £30 lower respectively.

Most homebuyers arrange building and contents insurance when they take out a mortgage. This is the easiest option, but also often the most expensive as the insurer takes the opportunity to recover the fat commissions it pays to the bank or building society for your custom. Organising cover independently can slice 30 per cent off the premiums.

Instead of ringing round every insurer for a quote (a lengthy but not fat-burning process) you could get an insurance broker to take the strain. John Charcol, the mortgage and insurance broker, asked five insurers what they would quote for a 40-year-old living in Birmingham B5 and needing £35,000-worth of contents cover. The premiums ranged from £296 at Commercial Union to £536 at Royal Sun Alliance.

Easy Money has already emphasised the budget-boosting potential of remortgaging, ie, transferring your loan to a lower-rate deal with your existing lender or a competitor. But here is one more striking example. A borrower with a £100,000 standard variable rate loan at 6.85 per cent will be paying £570.83 a month. Move to a new loan offer from the Stroud & Swindon Building Society, with a 2 per cent discount until 2001 and a 1 per cent discount until 2004, and your repayment drops to £404.16. There is an arrangement fee of £295.

■ **PENSIONS:** Age Concern has this week illustrated the inevitability of ageing and the need for pension-saving with computer-generated images of a senescent Chris Evans and Posh Spice. Worse than wrinkles, however, is the prospect of retirement with only the basic state pension of £3,471 a year.

If your firm offers a pension scheme, you should join to take advantage of such perks as a contribution to your fund from your employer. The self-employed and freelancers can take out personal pension plans today. Or they can wait until the launch of the stakeholder pension, which should be available within two years.

But the sooner you can start saving for retirement, the better. Turning their backs on their dishonourable past, insurance companies are now offering better-value pensions, with lower administration charges. A few independent financial advisers, such as Chartwell, based in Bath, will arrange a pension for a fee.

Tax relief softens the blow of investing in a pension. If you contribute £100, the real cost, after tax relief, is £77 if you are a basic-rate taxpayer and £60 if you are on the higher rate.

■ **SAVINGS:** Bank and building societies are paying puny rates of less than 1 per cent on many of their popular accounts. Egg, Virgin Direct and Scottish Widows Bank are much more generous. Another option is a cash individual savings account (Isa), where your interest will be tax-free. Abbey National offers a rate of just 1.85 per cent on a balance of £250 in its Action Saver account. The same balance earns 6 per cent in the Abbey Isa. Other cash Isa best buys come from the Nationwide (6.50 per cent) and the Yorkshire (6.25 per cent). Keeping watch on your savings is seen in some circles as a diet aid. Checking on the constantly changing rates of interest will leave you little time to snack.

● *Contacts: Abbey National savings: 0800 222397; John Charcol 0800 939393; Chartwell 01225 321700; Citibank 0800 008800; Egg 0845 6000292; Lloyds: www.lloydsbank.co.uk; Nationwide BS, 0500 302010; Offer: www.open.gov.uk/offer/offerhm.htm; People's Bank 0500 551055; Royal Bank of Scotland 0800 121121; RBS Advanta 0800 077770; Scottish Widows Bank 0845 8450829; Stroud & Swindon 0800 371824; Tesco 0845 6006016; Virgin Direct 0845 6101020; Yorkshire BS 01274 395 050.*



In training for a fitness test: put in a bit of effort this summer to improve the shape of your finances

Where to bag the profit

IF the news of the good fortune of savers at the Bradford & Bingley Building Society, who voted for a four-figure windfall on Monday, made you green with envy, it is still possible to get in on the carpetbagging act, but only just.

If you intend to open an account with a possible conversion target, do it quickly. The Bradford & Bingley vote will mean that mutuals will be on their guard, so you can expect more and more of them to impose restrictions on people seeking to open new accounts.

Already opportunities for those investors seeking windfalls who have not yet opened carpetbagging accounts are few and far between. Of the remaining major building societies, Nationwide, Yorkshire, Britannia, Coventry, Leeds & Holbeck and Newcastle are accepting new members, but they must sign away windfall rights to a charitable foundation when they join. So, for example, anyone who has opened an account at Nationwide since November 3, 1997, would not be entitled to a windfall were the society to convert.

For the new carpetbagger the best bet is Portman Building Society: it has recently removed all restrictions on opening new accounts, while reiterating its "unswerving commitment to mutuality". The only drawback for carpetbaggers is that the minimum balances vary according to how you open your account.

For example, Portman has introduced a mini cash individual savings account (Isa), which pays 6.55 per cent on £10 for those who open their accounts through a branch. However, the minimum deposit for people opening their accounts by post is £1,000. The instant access account pays 4.25 per cent on balances of £100 for locals, and on balances of £1,000 for customers opening accounts by post.

It has become more difficult, however, to force a conversion at Portman. On April 15 the society's existing savers, the members, voted to increase the majority needed for a conversion resolution to be passed to 75 per cent of savers and 50 per cent of borrowers.

The Skipton and the Chelsea are much less bagger-friendly. Skipton has a minimum balance on all accounts of £2,000, while Chelsea, one of the most vociferous supporters of the mutuality movement, pays punitively low rates of interest on some accounts. Its instant access account, for example, pays a paltry 0.5 per cent annually.

For those carpetbaggers who opened accounts before restrictions came in, the most competitive rates across the board are from Yorkshire Building Society. It pays 6.25 per cent on its mini cash Isa, 5.5 per cent on its instant access account and 5.8 per cent on its 30-day notice account. However, the chances of a conversion at Yorkshire, another bastion of the mutual movement, are extremely low.

PAULA HAWKINS

NASTY HABITS

The Ford Focus has been lauded in the motoring press, but don't rush to buy. Prices should plummet in the near future

Reading motoring journalists' reviews of the Ford Focus, the long-awaited successor to the Escort, is enough to make one rush straight out and buy one.

But don't rush out and buy a new one. The Focus, star of the "Expect more" ad campaign, may deliver more than your average family runaround, but you can also expect more depreciation. Because it was launched just over six months ago, it is still quite a "rare" car, so its price of between £12,000 and £14,000 for a 1.8 is high. Once the Escort goes off the market, thousands of Focuses will flood in and, experts say, their price will plunge.

And the Focus is not alone. "People rarely take it into account, but depreciation dwarfs all the other costs of running a car," says a spokesman for the Automobile Association. The AA estimates that, for a medium-sized car, annual insurance is about £450 and road tax £155. The cost of depreciation is £2,270. Just driving your car out of the showroom wipes 12 per cent off its value. In two years it loses about 45 per cent of its value, and after seven years, 75 per cent.

The rate of depreciation depends on the make and model. If, for example, you are one of the poor saps seduced into buying a new Citroën Xsara by Claudia Schiffer's striptease, you will be interested to know that not only did the car perform poorly in crash tests — the front airbag failed to open and the dummy's head (that's the crash-test dummy's head, not Claudia's) hit the dashboard — but also that Citroëns tend to be among the fastest-depreciating cars around, losing about 60 per cent of their value after three years.

The best way to beat depreciation blues is to let someone else have them. Buy a two to three-year-old car and you can save thousands of pounds. According to Fleet Management Services, a new Rover 211 on the road costs £10,250, but you can buy a three-year-old model for £3,485 and save £6,765. A three-year-old Citroën Xsara costs £7,685 less than a new model. A new Peugeot 1.6 estate is £12,295 but after three years will cost £5,041 — a saving of £7,254. Vauxhall Astras and VW Golfs are the best performers in the depreciation stakes. In fact, the Golf is one of the only cars in the small family range to retain more than 50 per cent of its price after three years.

A new Astra 1.6 costs £12,000, and one with about 36,000 miles on the clock is £5,160. A new Golf costs £13,975 new and £7,547 after three years, a saving of £6,428.

So if you buy a three-year-old Golf, you will have saved enough to insure the car for four years (fully comprehensive insurance for a 35-year-old Londoner from Direct Line costs about £250 a year) and still have enough left over to buy a three-year-old Toyota RAV4 for those weekend jaunts to the countryside.

Although buying a used car is still a gamble, there are reputable second-hand dealers such as Network Q, which sells used Vauxhalls, that will check the car thoroughly.

Make sure that you have the registration document, MoT certificates if the car is more than three years old, and full details of its service history. If you are suspicious about the mileage, contact the car's previous owners to verify details.

PAULA HAWKINS

NEXT WEEK: Calculating the cost of bringing up children

The birds that can count up to seven

Research proves that animals do have mathematical skills, says **Sanjida O'Connell**



More than just a bird brain: research among a fishing community in China has shown that trained cormorants such as this can apparently count up to seven

Pythagoras thought that numbers symbolised the face of God. If that is the case, some animals could be closer to godliness than many of us suppose. Researchers are increasingly finding that many animals are as skilled at maths as young children.

Dr Miriam Rothschild, the distinguished zoologist, was the first to prove that birds can count when she made a study of cormorants that are trained by fishermen on the banks of the Li-kiang River, in China. The fishermen tie string round the birds' throats so that they cannot swallow the fish they catch. The string is removed to allow the cormorants to eat every seventh fish.

Rothschild says: "Occasionally, the fishermen would lose count of the number of fish caught and say 'Go on' to a cormorant, but the bird would just sit there refusing to dive until the fishermen realised — 'Of course, it's the seventh fish' — and took the string off."

The cormorants were clever enough to understand that it was the seventh fish they were allowed to eat, not the fish they caught on the seventh dive.

More recently, Professor Marc Hauser, of Harvard University, used buckets, a few plums and some aubergines to demonstrate that monkeys can count. Hauser studies a group of wild monkeys on the island of Cayo Santiago, off Puerto Rico, using a technique called PLT (preferential looking time), which is adapted from child psychology.

PLT was developed as a method of investigating the counting ability of infants by Professor Karen Wynn, a psychologist at the University of Arizona, in Tucson. Wynn showed children a doll, then put a screen in front of it; she then showed the babies another doll and put that behind the screen, too. Without the babies noticing, she removed one of the dolls and lifted the screen, revealing the remaining doll. Most babies stare for longer at this doll than they do at the two dolls, allowing Wynn to argue that infants must have some concept of numbers if they are surprised to see one toy when there should be two.

> The big question now is: did words or numbers come first?

Wynn has also been able to demonstrate that babies of five to eight months can do simple maths. Wynn put one doll, followed by a second doll, behind the screen, lifted the screen and revealed three dolls. The children stared for longer, as if appropriately surprised that one plus one equals three.

Hauser tried this same approach with monkeys but used aubergines. Like the babies, the monkeys stared for longer when they saw one aubergine when they had expected to see two. Again, like the children, the monkeys were also surprised to see two aubergines miraculously metamorphose into three.

In a second experiment, Hauser put different numbers of plums in two buckets. The monkeys consistently went to the bucket containing the most plums. He says: "We found that they are capable of discriminating between four and three, a capacity which one-year-old infants do not have."

Hauser points out that there could well be a survival value in being able to count. "Animals are constantly confronted with situations where they have to evaluate the number of animals, or the number of pieces of food," he says. "So it is a natural task for them to be confronted with solving a simple mathematical problem.

"The question which has remained open is whether or not they evaluate things in terms of 'more or less', or whether they are counting." Hauser was able to demonstrate that monkeys were counting. He put one aubergine, followed by another, behind a screen and raised it to reveal one large aubergine that weighed as much as the previous two combined. The amount of aubergine was still the same, but the number was different, and yet the monkeys looked for longer when they saw the huge aubergine.

Monkeys may be smart, but they have their limits — they don't seem to be able to understand two plus two, nor can they distinguish between four and five plums. However, with human tuition, a small number of animals have achieved greater numerical feats.

Alex, a grey parrot raised by Professor Irene Pepperberg, from the University of Arizona, has been taught to speak and can count up to six. "Alex's achievement in counting is impressive," says Professor Euan Macphail, a psychologist from York University. "On the other hand, there are questions we might ask about exactly what is involved in the sort of counting that Alex is doing."

Macphail's criticism is that the creatures are not counting, they are subitising — this is the ability to look at a number of objects and to know how many there are without counting.

He explains: "If I flashed up a picture of four parrots, you would see instantly that there were four parrots — you would not need to go through systematically counting two, three, four." Macphail adds that our skill at subitising allows us to name only up to eight objects; so one would expect animals, if they were subitising, to understand numbers up to or fewer than eight, too.

He adds: "If we want to see animals' counting abilities as a demonstration of a higher intellectual ability, we have to go beyond counting to something like arithmetic."

A number of chimpanzees in Japan and America have managed to both count up to nine, and do simple arithmetic. Professor Sarah Boysen, from Columbus State University, Ohio, has taught some of her animals to use a touch-screen computer. She shows them a number of objects, usually sweets, and they point to the correct number on the computer. Two of the chimps, Bobbie and Sheba, can also add up and subtract simple sums and work out fractions, such as half a banana or a quarter of a pear.

These animals' abilities may be impressive, but why are scientists asking whether animals can count? After all, a salmon can't understand pi, but it is still incredibly well equipped for its own lifestyle, and its feats of navigation outshine anything that we can do without the aid of technology. Comparing animals to a human yardstick invariably means the animals will fail.

Hauser believes that this work is vital because it allows us to determine whether language or maths evolved first. What these animals are doing, essentially, is counting in "nameless numbers" — they have the concept behind counting, but without the words. Now he and other scientists want to know the extent to which animals make calculations — do they, for example, go through the same kind of thought processes as a human being?

"For instance," he says, "a human finds a piece of chocolate cake in the refrigerator; it's the only piece left, and his room-mate might enjoy a piece, too. He is confronted with two choices: does he tell his room-mate honestly, 'I'd like this piece of chocolate cake', or does he eat it and risk that if he is found with the cake, his room-mate will probably get a little annoyed?"

Watch this space for a timely shower ☐ Insects' repellent ☐ Canine care

Don't miss out on the meteors



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

LAST November astronomers anxious to see the best meteor shower for 33 years decamped to Asia, where fireworks were predicted. In reality, they would have done better to stay at home. Instead of amazing the people of East Asia, the 1998 Leonids shower produced its most dramatic fireballs over the Atlantic 16 hours earlier.

In a remarkable piece of scientific detection, this unexpected result has been traced back to events that took place more than 600 years ago in 1333.

The annual Leonids shower (so-called because the shooting stars appear to originate from the constellation of Leo) is caused by the Earth passing through the orbit of the comet Tempel-Tuttle. This happens every year, but especially brilliant displays occur every 33 years or so, when the comet has passed close to the Sun, releasing more dust particles for Earth to plunge through.

Predicting the timing of such an event is notoriously difficult, but missing the best part of the event by 16 hours was a big error. Now three astronomers — Dr David Asher and Professor Mark Bailey, of Armagh Observatory, and Professor Vacheslav Emelyanenko, of South Ural University in Chelyabinsk, in the Russian Federation — say that we must look back to 1333 for an explanation.

The display that many astronomers missed occurred as Earth passed through an extremely dense, narrow stream of large dust grains and particles, up to several centimetres in diameter. The timing suggested that these particles were in an orbit rather different from that of the main stream of small grains shed by the comet, and that they left the comet's nucleus many hundreds of years ago.

They calculated the motion of large dust grains ejected from the comet at each of the last 42 occasions when it made its closest approach to the Sun. They identified September 1333 as the time when most of the observed particles must have been released. These particles did not spread out in space because of a dynamical process known as resonance, the same process that keeps Saturn's rings in place.

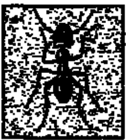
In this case it is the influence of Jupiter which kept the dust cloud intact instead of allowing it to spread around the entire orbit of the comet.

In the latest issue of *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, they report that the particles occupy a rather short arc, forming a dense strand of large particles separate from the "normal" strands of small particles, which lie ahead of and behind the comet.

The calculations show that in November 1998 the arc of particles released in 1333 cut right through Earth's orbit, and the calculated time for when this happened matched the observed meteor shower maximum to the hour.

The researchers are not expecting a repeat performance of bright fireballs in November this year. But a strong "normal" display is likely, peaking at about 2am on November 18, because of meteoroids ejected from comet Tempel-Tuttle in 1866, 1899 and 1932 that have not yet had time to disperse around the comet's orbit.

Ants that farm their own food



THE invention of agriculture is shared by mankind and the leafcutter ant. These ingenious creatures live on a special fungus that they grow on leaves and fragments of vegetable debris, which they collect and carry back to their nests. Each day they harvest and eat the crop.

But they face the same problem as farmers — other organisms invade their plots and exploit them. Dr Cameron Currie, of the University of Toronto, found that the ants' gardens were often invaded by a virulent fungus called *Escovopsis*, but that it never seemed to gain a foothold.

He found the answer in a white material that all fungus-growing ants carry in a kind of bib under their chins. In *Nature* he reports that this substance is a bacterium, *Streptomyces*. He guessed that the bacteria produced an antibiotic capable of killing the invading fungi. Experiments in a dish confirmed it. All fungi would grow in the presence of the bacterium except the invasive one.

He concludes that the bacteria must be producing a very specific antibiotic which has yet to be identified. To sustain the symbiotic relationship, the bacteria must be getting something out of the deal, too — probably, he suspects, some form of nourishment.

Dogs get a dose of their masters' medicine

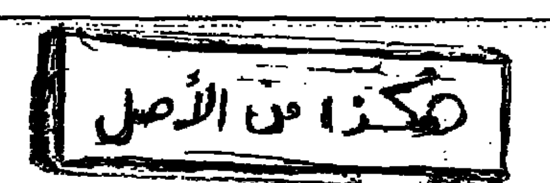


DOGS IN the Western world are fed better than many people in the Third World. They also get better medical treatment, with drugs originally designed for human patients finding uses for such canine complaints as separation anxiety and cognitive dysfunction syndrome, a doggy form of Alzheimer's disease.

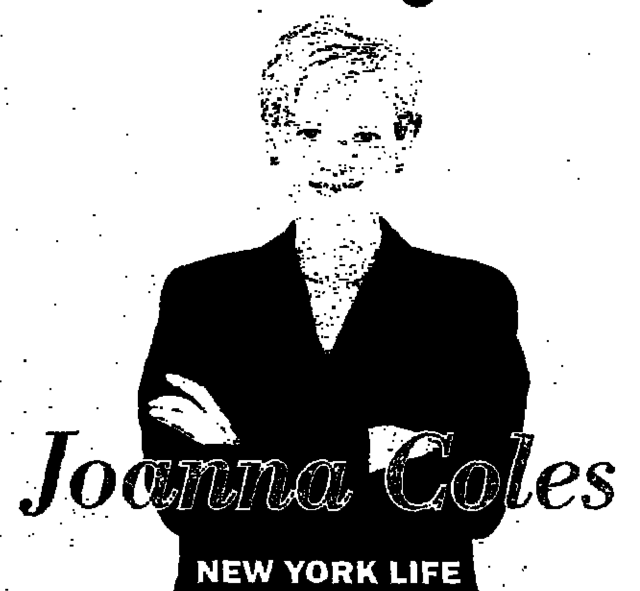
The drug company Novartis has discovered in trials that clomipramine hydrochloride, an anti-depressant used for obsessive-compulsive disorder in human beings, is effective in treating the anxiety that some dogs feel when left alone. The company told *The Scientist* that 14 per cent of the American dog population — seven million dogs — suffer symptoms, so the market is large.

Pfizer, meanwhile, has found that a Parkinson's disease drug, selegiline hydrochloride, is effective in treating CDS, a mental decline that causes a number of distressing symptoms. About 70 per cent of dogs improved after a month of treatment. Both these drugs have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration in America.

Drugs to stop dogs biting seem an obvious follow-up, but liability claims may put the pharmaceutical companies off. And a really effective treatment for the panic induced in some dogs by fireworks and thunderstorms seems as distant as ever.



When Tiffany's is a cheap option



"WHAT DO you want for your birthday?" asks Peter.

"Oh whatever," I lie. We are sitting in Ruby Foo's, *Manhattan's trendiest new* "Dim Sum and Sushi Palace, *specialising in Pan Asian and* Pacific Rim".

Ruby Foo's, owned by Steven Hanson of the legendary Ocean Grill, opened this month to Broadway-style reviews, the birth of a *restaurant here being* of equal, if not greater, cultural significance to a new show. But its real claim to fame is that it has opened *on the* Upper West Side, at 77th Street and Broadway, a district that is otherwise almost devoid of "destination" restaurants.

As *New York* magazine *gushed in its review*: "Foo's is a red-hot, polished black and *antique gold duplex of such* brazen gawk-at-this elegance *that its grand staircase can* transform the descent of any common flowergirl into a spotlight-worthy entrance to rival Eliza Doolittle's coming-out party."

The Upper West Side, somewhat flatteringly portrayed in Nora Ephron's latest film, *You've Got Mail*, is where many media Manhattan couples move when *they start* a family and are reluctantly forced to relinquish *the loft in TriBeCa*.

And Ruby Foo's is trying to appeal to this market of local baby boomers by trumpeting its infant-friendliness. It suggests that one can happily continue one's pre-baby regimen of frequenting restaurants — just bring the *little bundle with you like a* genetic fashion accessory. Rather like those advertisements for tampons with names such as Liberty and Freedom, with their images of smiling women abseiling down cliff-faces and water skiing in thongs and such copy lines as: "Don't let the time of the month cramp *your style!*"

Foolishly, we have fallen *for all of this, although by the* time our spicy tuna sushi arrives, Thomas's persistent screams have highlighted the central flaw in the baby'n'res*taurants pitch. Oddly*, the other patrons don't seem to *mind*. Young *women* keep coming over to coo pleasantly at his frowning *red* face, which clears briefly to flirt with each new arrival before *getting back to the serious* contest of showing us that he *has more stamina than we* have patience.

"Can't you think of anything at all?" shouts Peter above Thomas's conversa*tion-defying din*.

"No, really, whatever," I lie again, depressed that he has failed to pick up all the hints that I've been littering all week. For the truth is, although I'm ashamed to admit it, *I* have been swept up by the city's latest fashion craze. Although *I am normal*ly oblivious to the significance of designer labels. I crave a Kate Spade nappy bag. I know, I know — there is nothing intrinsically special about the Kate Spade bag. There is nothing to distinguish it from the many *similar bags on the market*, except for its tiny black and white label whispering Kate Spade New York.

Yet in the past few months it has mugged the Prada knapsack and shrugged Lulu Guinness off the shoulder as the quintessential accessory in the working-woman's wardrobe, creating a Furby-*like fetish among profession*al women.

"Guess what," says *Dani*, whose baby shower I went to earlier this month. "My *agent gave me a Kate Spade* nappy bag as a shower gift." I whistle in awe. Forget taking her phone calls — this more than anything indicates the degree of seriousness with which her agent regards her.

"How did anyone manage *before the Kate Spade nappy* bag?" marvels Joyce, a television producer and the mother of five-month-old Jackson, as she fishes through its many pockets and triumphantly retrieves a bottle of Simulac.

My own, considerably *cheaper, imitation — made* by something called Babies Alley — also contains a black portable changing mat and several waterproof pockets for bottles and soiled diapers. I kick it under my chair.

"I was in Frederic Fekkai last week," reports Betsy, a psychotherapist, "and every single woman having her *hair cut had a* Kate Spade bag."

Even the New York *Observer*, the city's most cynical weekly, dispatched a femi*nist columnist to explain the* item's mystique. "It is a bag described at best as plain but there is a stigma — or is it an aura? — that goes with this purse," she admitted, before succumbing to the charms of a green one.

Five hundred women re*cently eschewed their dawn* workouts to turn up at 6am and stand in line for the annual Kate Spade sample sale, picking up e-mails from their fliptop cell-phones and carrying on conference calls as they stood in the queue. Reports back from the fash*ion front line say* that it took 30 minutes to get through the checkout.

"Actually there is something I'd quite like," I say finally as we struggle with the pushchair, carrying it like a sedan chair down Ruby Foo's grand staircase as Thomas raises a regal wave. "I'd like a Kate Spade nappy bag."

"OK," nods Peter.

Tuesday: "I'm afraid I just couldn't do it," says Peter, re*turning empty-handed from* his trek to Barneys. "Have *you any idea how much a* Kate Spade bag costs?"

"Mmn. I know. They're quite expensive," I murmur.

"They're $450!" Peter explodes. "For a bit of old nylon and a zip. And the ordinary *bags, they start at $750. And* they're not even particularly well made.

"I tried," he goes on as I attempt to mask my disappointment. "I really tried to buy one. But I just physically *couldn't do it*. And so I got you something else."

He hands me a small turquoise box from Tiffany's. Inside is a pair of Paloma Picasso earrings.

"These are beautiful," I admit as I press them through my lobes. "But weren't they very expensive?"

"Well, put it this way," he says. "They're an awful lot cheaper than a Kate Spade bag."

Who would ever have *thought that Tiffany's could* be the economy option?

Do not clam up, be rigid or frigid

In the third extract from his memoirs, **George Walden** offers a wry guide to protocol when travelling with the royals



GAMMA

Wining and dining for Britain: the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh aboard *Britannia*, with the former Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd (right)

Travelling with the Queen is an art, and it took time to learn the tricks. In my three years working alongside *the Foreign Secretary*, I became *quite the little royal traveller. After visits to Germany*, Denmark, Morocco, Italy, *Tunisia and the Gulf on the* Royal Yacht *Britannia*, I *wrote a list of do's and don'ts*. It turned out to be all don'ts.

Do not make an oik of yourself by running your own bath. The flunkies know better than you when you need a bath, and will turn up to run it for you, uninvited and at the most inappropriate moment. When this happens, do not say testily "I will do it myself", since that could imply that a) you rarely take baths; b) you are not used to having them run for you; c) you are a republican as well as an oik.

Never overdress at breakfast or underdress at dinner.

Resign yourself to the fact that much of the time on board is spent changing clothes. The *maximum I counted was five* times a day. At breakfast, *when a dressing-down compe*tition takes place among the *royal party (though not the* Queen and the Duke, who breakfast alone), sweaters and jeans are as low as you can decently go. You then return to your cabin with just enough time to change again, the first engagement of the day involv*ing morning suits. Lunch* means another change, and *dinner will be in DJ or white* tie. Royalty should be esteemed for their proficiency as quick-change artists alone.

When it is your turn to dine next to the Queen, do not clam up, be rigid or frigid. Do not think yourself a toady for harbouring positive thoughts about Her Majesty: behind her dutiful demeanour lies a strong sense of irony and a genuine wit.

Do not return the foreign decorations that you find on your cabin desk to the host country, thinking that you are a master of protocol. Yes, it is true that the Queen and the Foreign Secretary are not allowed to accept foreign orders, *but being too junior to matter*, you can accept whatever distinguished medals you like. *In return for being number 21 in the Royal Household, I am* made, among other things, a *Commander of the Order of* the Republic of Tunisia and of the Danish Order of the Dannebrog. Remember to wear the one you have just been given and take care not to wear the Order of the Dannebrog in Tripoli, which is not in Denmark, *though* there are times when all banquets seem alike *and you have little idea where* the hell you are.

Do not allow a greedy smile to play on your lips as you contemplate the array of gifts from your hosts that appear miraculously in your cabin. The rule for gifts is the reverse of that for orders: the medals you may keep but the gold watches you must return. Do not, however, return the watches and suchlike to the emir or sheikh who presented them to you, since they do not need the money, but to the Treasury, which does. The sheikh or emir would also be offended, whereas the Treasury is lacking in all human sensitivities.

On one royal trip to the Gulf *I amassed a small hoard of* gold, including a watch with the head of the local emir ticking from side to side. On my re*turn I duly declared my hoard* to the Treasury and was asked *for some* £7,000 (£20,000 today), the balance remaining after my £30 gift allowance had been deducted. Not being able to lay my hands on £7,000 and having no pressing need for watches with ticking heads, my gold went to the Treasury. Do not ask why you were given the gifts if not to keep, or why the emirs do not send a cheque direct to the Treasury. Logic in matters of royal protocol will get you nowhere.

Never turn down a drink, unless it is *of local manufac*ture. Alcohol can *drown the boredom*. Never display natural human emotions such as impatience or surprise. Above all, remember that royalty are normal people who smile, joke and like to enjoy themselves. Behave normally, but not to the point of smiling too much or making too many jokes. Too much smiling will make you appear a congenital idiot or a subservient buffoon. Too many jokes will invite too *few laughs, not because the* jokes are not funny but because they are not royal. Be respectful but not glum (an infallible sign of the republican), courteous but not over-deferential (a sign of low self-esteem), natural but not too natural (you are with royalty, my friend, and never forget it).

● *Extracted from* Lucky George *by George Walden, published by Penguin on May 6, £17.99; available to* Times *readers for £15, p&p, from* The Times *Bookshop, 0990 134459.*

PRINCE OF WALES

THE fall of the Berlin Wall brought me into contact with the Prince of Wales. A speech I made at the Royal Institute of International Affairs at the end of the Cold War caught his notice and there followed the first of several meetings — an invitation to tea.

It was with a sense of unreality that I sat with *the Prince* in our brocaded chairs in Kensington Palace, with a private secretary who looked as if he *had never set foot in a compre*hensive school in his life, la*menting the state of the na*tion's education. The subject brought on the Prince's why-oh-why look, in which he screws up his eyes in agonised incomprehension and folds his brow like rumpled paper. His astonishment was both touching and painful. He could not understand how teachers could not grasp what was so clear to him. Why didn't they see that this egalitarian nonsense was a ghastly mistake and snap out of it?

He was, of course, right. Nevertheless, it was an exasperating conversation. There were so many things the *Prince needed to understand* and so few ways of telling him. We are all inadequately educated, but in a sense the Prince, it seemed to me, was more backward than most. He did not seem to grasp theoretical concepts and had no experience of a typical English school. How do you converse with a man who has perfectly sensible instincts but no practical or intellectual understanding of the problem?

When we talked about the *poverty of aspiration it was* tempting to ask him how a *shopgirl* whose role model was Diana — rich, pretty, poorly educated but soupily caring — could be encouraged to aspire to a higher intellectual station in life? Perhaps I should have said it. Maybe he would have understood that. As it was, the Prince gave me the impression of a perpetually puzzled man — puzzled as *to his role, puzzled as to the* ways of the British, puzzled as to the ways of the world.

TOMORROW

Walden on Thatcher: "Clearly she had reached the stage where no one dared to tell her that she couldn't treat people like that"

Tony, you're talking globaloney

Globalisation is another moral evasion, says David Selbourne

In 1992, in the wake of the fall of communism, the American thinker Francis Fukuyama proclaimed the "end of the historical process". We were now all liberal democrats, or becoming so. We were in consequence entering a "post-historical period", he argued, in which the great battles of the past, ideological and otherwise, were effectively over.

We came to know soon enough that this thesis, whose vogue was intense but brief, was twaddle. Wars and massacres, a heightened sense of ethnicity, continuing scientific and technological "advances", genetic manipulations, fundamentalist muscle-flexing, ecological changes and all the rest of it have taught us their own lessons. History does not have an "end", in any sense.

Now, a new and equally fashionable thesis is leading us all by the noses: that of "globalisation". It was outlined in all its majesty at the weekend by Tony Blair in Chicago. We live, allegedly, in an essentially new world. It is not, this time, one in which historical evolution has somehow come to an end. Rather, it is one in which the "global" economy, the "global" society, a "global" culture, and "global" citizenship rule the planetary roost. New responsibilities rest on our leaders' shoulders. And new gurus whisper in their ears.

For the ideological father of this thesis, our new Fukuyama, is Professor Anthony Giddens, the Director of the London School of Economics and Mr Blair's favourite intellectual. He has been outlining his theory of globalisation this month as the BBC's Reith lecturer. But the thesis of "globalisation", a mutant form of the "end-of-history" proposition, is, like its predecessor, just twaddle. It is pure globaloney.

National policy decisions, cultural traditions and social conditions remain the important variables in determining a state's economic fortunes. Governments continue, sometimes with justice, to congratulate themselves for making economic choices that are superior to those of their predecessors or neighbours. States must, nevertheless, always be involved in relations wider than their own bounds. Economic autarky and political insulation from other nations are not options. Indeed, they never have been. But governments continue to defend their nations' interests in particularist ways: in democracies they are sacked by their national electorates if they do not.

But what does the thesis of "globalisation" represent? First, it expresses a strong, even apocalyptic, death-wish for the nation-state and the moral order. The nation-state is regarded as basically out of date, having been superseded by "global" forces that dwarf it and which it cannot control. The moral order — any moral order — has been overtaken or subsumed by the universal cause of human rights and of individual self-emancipation from restraint. The family, and many other "traditional" social arrangements, are being rendered obsolete under "global" pressures of varying kinds. These institutions are all for the knacker's yard and, so goes the wisdom of the hour, about time too. This is the death-wish.

Secondly, the thesis of "globalisation" provides a cover, or legitimation, for the failures of individual states to tackle their manifold social, economic, ethical and environmental problems. It is highly convenient for some politicians to feel, and to be told, that these problems are beyond their own powers to solve. Thus, if climatic "warming" is "global", as it is, but the individual nation-state is held to be powerless on its own to do anything about it — say, by reducing its emissions of pollutants and noxious gases — the burden of obligation can be transposed on to the back of a "global" organisation. By this means practical problem-solving may be postponed *sine die*. But this is merely another form of moral evasion, in which the global dimension provides a near-perfect alibi for the transference of moral responsibility, and even for entire inaction.

Thirdly, the thesis of "globalisation" is no more than a particular, and limited, construction of reality. A "global" vision is in fact partial and myopic: it sees the wood rather than the trees. It is also a truism. The world is by definition "global", and can be no other. Mercantile and financial greeds, especially, have always been global in their intended purchase. There is nothing new about it today, except in its degree.

> 'Global' warming means no one nation need take reponsibility

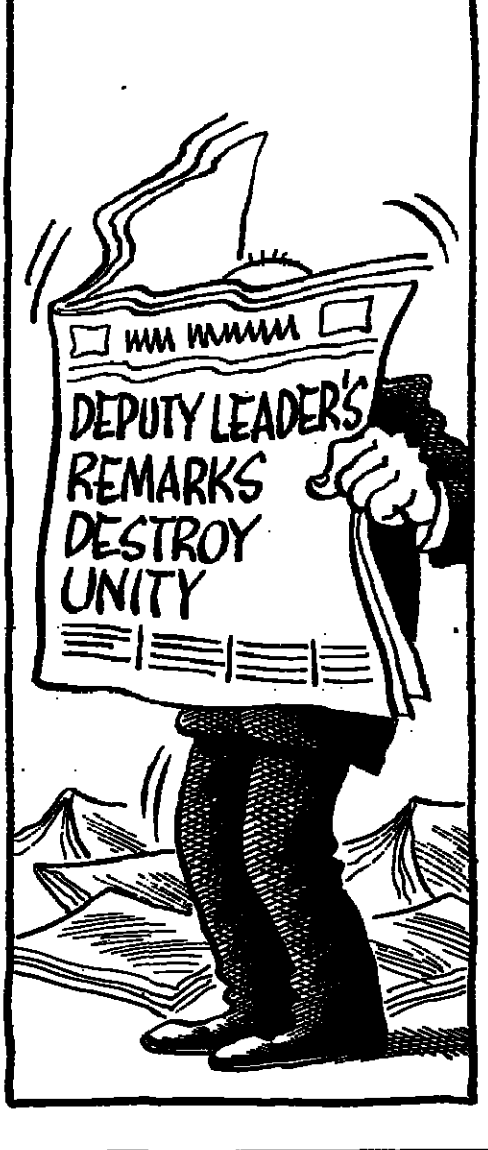
Moreover, "global" as the world must be, the sun still rises upon us in the particular place (and nation) where we are. We have, much as before, our exits and our entrances, even if science may interfere. We can change our minds, as we can change — some of us — our habitats and habits. But we cannot retrospectively change our particular place of birth, or our particular maternal language, any more than we can change our race, or our colour, or — despite "gender reassignment" — our sex.

And only with difficulty can we deny our natural predispositions and talents, our preferences and prejudices, including those in favour of one particular form of local belonging or affiliation over another. The globetrotting politician, banker, tourist, mafioso or intellectual may see, from the air, the global dimension of human existence. But men and women on the ground are confined, and generally secured, by their associations in a particular place and time.

We are not "citizens of the world". We cannot be: the very concept is a contradiction in terms. But then "globalisation", as a theory, is like that. In common with its predecessor, the "end of history", it promises much as an explanatory notion in our dark times, yet, at the last, provides no real illumination at all.

comment@the-times.co.uk







Nato's moral morass

The manner in which we conduct this war demeans British values

Simon Jenkins

The spin from Washington is clear. Tony Blair can talk about an air war and a just war, but he must not mention a real one. Real wars kill our people. Mr Blair must go on fighting his war from 15,000ft. The target list must be intensified. The crusade against President Milosevic must be sustained, but not where it might be won, on the ground. Morals are fine for speeches, but in action pragmatism is all.

Britain appears to be alone in Nato in its eagerness to invade Kosovo. President Clinton finds the idea unpalatable and Italy, France and Germany regard it as "off the agenda". Nato proceeds to dither, while intelligence reports that Mr Milosevic has more troops in Kosovo than when the bombing began. Speaking to the American media last week, the Prime Minister barely concealed his frustration at his colleagues' refusal to carry war to its logical next stage, to expel Serb forces from Kosovo and repatriate the Kosovans. He is Prometheus chained to the Nato rock, while a defiant Mr Milosevic gnaws at his vitals.

In this I have some sympathy with Mr Blair. Any belief that Mr Milosevic would sooner or later invite Nato to invade his country was wishful thinking and bombers' rhetoric. Mr Blair now realises this. If Nato was serious about protecting the Kosovans, it would have rushed the rapid reaction force into Pristina last winter when Belgrade was clearly reneging on the October deal and before most of the Yugoslav Army had moved into the province. Nato's much-vaunted "rapid deployment capability" should have proved its mettle. Such an assault would have been no more illegal than the present one, and would have been far more "just", in securing a humanitarian goal against a clearly mendacious Belgrade.

Yet this course of action was never on. One of the more sickening spectacles of the past fortnight has been liberal hawks deriding the conduct of the war "so far", a war they wanted high off the ground, clean, technological and with no Nato dead. They would never have allowed Mr Blair to do the only logical thing, which was to invade. He and they fell on the necks of the air-war lobby, happy to believe yet again that a few Tomahawks would bring a dictator swiftly to his knees. They claimed that Belgrade might even welcome a few bombs so as to help Mr Milosevic to sell a retreat from Kosovo to the mob. The same naivety must underlie the Cabinet's present faith in the Apache helicopter to somehow get them off the hook. The fact is that every Nato country has always been ready for bombing but not for war.

Mr Blair is said to be taking advice on what to do next from Baroness Thatcher, victor of the Falklands. I know what she will be telling him: get out and bully the pathetic Americans into action or the pathetic Europeans will never toe the line. He should beware such advice. There is no parallel with the Falklands, where national humiliation was at stake, where war was approved by the United Nations and where the military objective was crystal clear. (And even Lady Thatcher did not bomb Buenos Aires.) None of this applies in Kosovo, where the mission creep is as eerie as the method creep. I am averse to treating a newspaper postbag, a BBC phone-in log or the London conversation circuit as bellwethers of public opinion. I can only report that this war is leaving thousands of patriotic people baffled, concerned and even outraged. And all Mr Blair can say by way of consolation is that it is about morality.

In his Chicago speech last week, Mr Blair appeared to be redrawing the boundaries of British foreign policy in one sweep. He sought a new justification for military intervention against states committing "appalling crimes", and a basis for moral wars against dictators generally. But there are two sorts of morality applied to war. There is a just war conducted for the survival of the state or against a threat to world peace, in which every sinew must be tuned to the goal of victory. Nothing suggests that Nato (other than Mr Blair) sees Kosovo remotely in these terms. Nato's air war is the most tentative, and ineffective, form of engagement, however awful its destruction.

Quite separate are limited wars, fought in accordance with proportionality, in which military behaviour is restricted by moral considerations. As General Frank Kitson has written of such "policing" encounters, moral restriction makes them very hard to fight, yet restriction is vital if moral supremacy is to be maintained. Last month, Nato behaved accordingly. It said it would scrupulously avoid civilian targets or risking civilian lives. It would tell the truth, respect democratic debate and confine its aggression to achieving specific goals. For instance, it did not seek Kosovan independence or the overthrow of Mr Milosevic.

Recent actions, and justifications, indicate severe "morals creep" on Nato's part. Spokesmen are displaying that hazard of a war that is not going well, of measuring their own deeds against the enemy's standards. The accidental bombing of a commuter train and a tractor convoy was plainly the result of pilots being ordered to fly too high to identify their targets visually. Yet Nato said that the deaths were "really" caused by Mr Milosevic's ethnic cleansing. Asked to justify the conflagration of a civilian chemicals factory, the Defence Secretary, George Robertson, merely said it was no worse than Mr Milosevic's burning of Kosovan villages. Explaining the attempt to kill Mr Milosevic at night in his family home as an attack on a "command and control centre" was spin worthy of Mr Milosevic himself. I still cannot believe that the Prime Minister approved it.

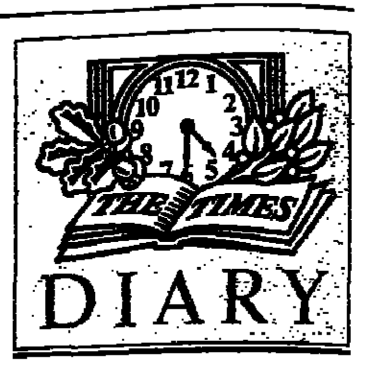
Last week's killing of between 15 and 20 staff at the Belgrade television building came after specific assurances from Nato's spokesman Jamie Shea that they were not a target. Either he was lying or he was being lied to by his superiors. The British International Development Minister, Clare Short, claimed that the staff were "legitimate targets" since the station had refused Nato's fanciful demand that it broadcast six hours of "Western programmes" in place of its own propaganda. By no known definition of war were these civilians classifiable as combatants. Yet they were treated by Nato's targeters as the equivalent of spies, executed without trial. Nato did not apologise for killing them, but appeared to seek moral equivalence between their deaths and Mr Milosevic's recent killing of a dissident editor.

So deep is this ethical morass that Robin Cook could yesterday go on radio to castigate as "brutal" Mr Milosevic's sending of soldiers to occupy a TV station. The Serbian President dispatched his troops to the outlet supported by his critic, Vuk Draskovic. This is the rival station to the one the Foreign Secretary had just bombed, killing half its occupants. In the ruthless media politics of Belgrade, Mr Milosevic is a comparative softie.

Mr Cook and Ms Short ask us to accept that, because Western journalists are on the side of right and Serbs on the side of wrong, the premeditated killing of the latter is a "just act". The massacre stopped broadcasts for just six hours, and risked the life of every Western reporter in Yugoslavia. I cannot see the proportionality, let alone the morality, in this. Targeting civilians remains wrong, and it is no good ministers repeating that the Kosovans were civilians too. It is an odd "just" war that seeks an equivalence of mayhem in others' conflicts.

Military intervention in Yugoslavia was wrong from the start. But even now it must be "moral" or it is mindless. I know the war's macho supporters will dismiss this ethical nicety as defeatist. Nato must win. People will get hurt. Every Serb is a legitimate target and we need to remember only that Mr Milosevic is worse than us. I disagree. The warmonger cannot plead a moral end and deny morality a role in the means. He cannot summon the nation to a just war, and say justice is for wimps. Any British war should be better than that.

simon.jenkins@the-times.co.uk



DIARY

Agony Auntie

I BOW to no one in my grief after the death of Jill Dando. But signs that a strange, Diana-esque cult of sadness is taking hold are evident at the BBC. Staff have been offered round-the-clock grief counselling.

A global e-mail has been sent to employees by Richard Sambrook, head of news gathering, saying that teams of therapists have been drafted in to White City. Even those who never met the presenter can seek therapy "no questions asked".

Security has also been stepped up. Michael Buerk, Anna Ford and Kate Adie will no longer be allowed into the building without passes.

Ed Halling, chief investigator at the BBC, has been charged with reviewing security for potential targets. He has received 20 calls since Miss Dando's death, as fears for the safety of big names grow: "They are certainly concerned about a threat to BBC staff."

MORE motoring capers with Peter Mandelson. Luxuriating in his new Fiat Punto at the weekend, his exhaust fell off.

■ ACUTELY aware of the frailties of youth, Eddie Bell might give Michael Owen (below left) an early bath. The HarperCollins boss (right) is worried about his £1 million signing. The Liverpool star was stretchered off the pitch after agreeing to write his memoirs (not



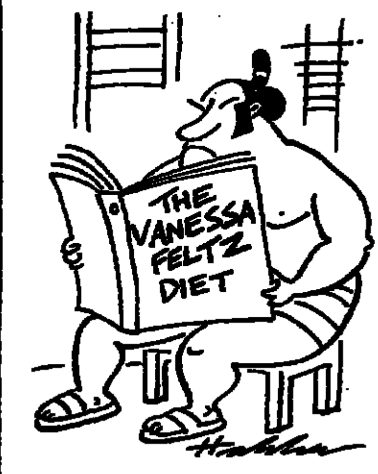
bad for a 19-year-old). His little mishap, ending his season, set lawyers thinking.

"We have included an injury clause," says Michael Doggart, handler. "We are protected against long-term injury. As long as it is passing, then the deal stays." If not, "further negotiation" will be in order. Bell, an Arsenal man, says: "I am sure he will be back next season causing havoc for us."

BERNARD MANNING is William Hague's answer to Sean Connery in Scotland. The amusing bon vivant has been wheeled out as the Tories' most vibrant celebrity. Here is his rallying call: "Socialism doesn't work. Look at Russia. You can't take out of the pot what you're not putting in. Unity is power. That's my motto." And Stalin's, too.

■ STEPHEN TWIGG has had to curb his ambitions. The MP has cancelled his £200-a-head dinner to launch his re-election campaign for Enfield Southgate. Awkwardly, the fundraiser would have set the clock ticking on crucial election expenses.

Stephen took advice. "On reflection I decided this wasn't an appropriate event at this time," he says. Peter Mandelson, the star speaker, lost the chance to help to propel him back into higher office, but is promised another go soon.



■ ALWAYS keen to associate with winners, Alastair Campbell has been squiring Peter Reid, the successful manager of Sunderland, around Downing Street. Old baby-munching Campbell held few fears for Reid. "Sports hacks give me a tougher time than these lobby journalists give Alastair," he said (correctly). Stand by for Peter Reid, MP — or Campbell as a Sunderland fan after the recent performance of his favoured club, Burnley.

JEREMY THORPE recalls a more patrician era. He was with George Brown and Alec Douglas-Home when Brown advised his predecessor as Foreign Secretary to move into the official pad in The Mall. Thorpe says Harold Macmillan had noted: "It's a pretty house. When the Duke of Devonshire sold Devonshire House, he bought it to have somewhere to store the furniture." "Christ" was all Brown could say.

JASPER GERARD

'If I appear in pubs, darts games end and landlords run out of ice, and when I set foot on a zebra crossing I take my life in my hands'

Alan Coren

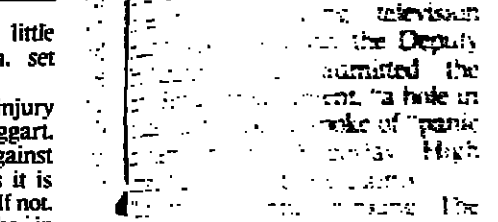
It is time for me to leave Cricklewood. I have no option. I do not want to leave, Cricklewood. God knows (for He can see my fingers trembling as they tap the words, He can hear the hot tears pattering on to my keyboard. He understands, it is His job) but any day now — make that any night — I shall heartbrokenly chuck the bits and bobs of three decades aboard a handcart, grease its axle, muffle its wheels, and, provided there is no moon, push, literally, off. Praying as I furtively scuttle that there is no insomniac neighbour standing at his bedroom window keen-eyed enough, despite the dark, to speed my going with a valedictory brick. For who could blame him? These 30 years, he and his fellow-villagers have indulged me with an ever-lengthening tether, but now, at last, they have found themselves at the end of it.

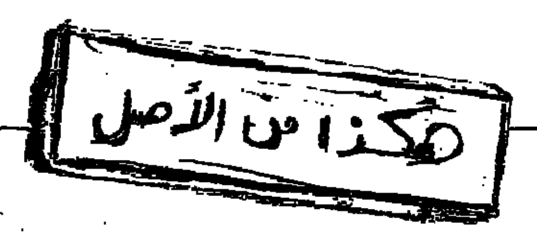
Brought there by Richard Curtis. Because Richard Curtis, who lives in Notting Hill, has made a film called *Notting Hill*. I know I do not need to tell you this, I know you knew it two seconds after God knew it, for *Notting Hill*, though it has not even publicly opened, is the most known film ever made. Everything about it has been told in Gath and published in the streets of Askelon. Previews have appeared to shepherds watching their flocks by night. Open any Gobi tabloid, switch on any Inuit channel, cock an ear in any souk, down any coalmine, up any alp, and the talk is of little else. There can be nobody on the planet who does not know that *Notting Hill* stars Hugh Grant as an unsuccessful bookseller who falls for a famous actress played by Julia Roberts, just as there can be nobody who has not read that, as the result of all this taradiddle, Notting Hill stands poised to shove Casablanca from its podium as celluloid's most glamorous address. It could well become the first nominee to win an Oscar for Best Postal District. So, since Mr Curtis has manifestly triumphed, by his myriad romanticising skills, in making this dog-eared West London enclave so chic, so famous, so globally desirable, is it any wonder that his neighbours should fall to their knees each bedtime, and bless his name?

And is it obversely any wonder that mine do not go to bed at all, preferring to hold black masses, strangle cockerels, and stick rusty hatpins into a crude plasticine mannikin with a snapshot snipped from this newspaper gummed to its little bald head so that Old Nick need be left in no doubt whatever? You would not believe the new *froideur* in the Cricklewood streets, crossed as soon as they spot me coming by those who would once smile, and pause, and gossip. Dogs are tugged away from my pat, children folded into their mothers' skirts, change is wordlessly slapped down on shop counters, and Next Window signs slapped up in banks and post offices. I have only to appear in pubs for darts games to finish and landlords to run out of ice, and every time I set foot on a zebra crossing I take my life in my hands. If I wanted to borrow a cup of sugar or a pair of secateurs, I should have to drive for miles.

So then, is this sudden and deeply distressing disaffection simply the product of Cricklewood's resentment that I have not done for it what Richard Curtis did for Notting Hill? Are the villagers enraged that the hack among them did not seize the chance to glorify their patch into an international byword for cuteness to fill the absent world with envy? Well yes, but that, I fear, is only a part of it. For it is not simply that, while Mr Curtis has sought every opportunity to select those features of Notting Hill which will enhance its charm and assiduously eschew those which might detract, I have, for Cricklewood, always striven to do the opposite, since my neighbours seem never to have minded that too much, have rarely raised a hackle, and have only occasionally tutted — perhaps because they were grateful that Cricklewood received any public mention at all, but certainly because they clearly never felt that any harm was being done. Then what has so upset them, now?

What has so upset them now is that brightest among all the glare of publicity attending *Notting Hill* shines the revelation that local property prices have gone through the roof of every house, flat, and kennel in the area — including Mr Curtis's own two-bedroom bolt-hole, currently on the market at £1.3 million. And that, I'm afraid, is what Cricklewood holds against me. It senses that my depiction of it down the long arches of the years will serve only to prove that prices can go down as well as up. That is why I shall have to leave; although quite when, of course, I cannot say. Selling my house won't be easy.





CRISIS OF CLARITY

The current Conservative strategy lacks credibility

Only the conflict in Kosovo and tragic shootings at home and abroad have obscured just how traumatic the past week has been for the Conservative Party. Its Central Office is riven by scapegoat hunters. The Shadow Cabinet is in utter disarray. The parliamentary party, which thought that it had lost the capacity for shock, is bitter and angry. Old alliances have been broken. Many of those most appalled by Peter Lilley's address last week were his staunchest supporters when he sought the Conservative leadership in 1997.

It is worth recapping why Mr Lilley's lecture, and William Hague's defence of his deputy, proved such an important moment. Mr Lilley was understandably sensitive to the charge that Tories are not trusted to run the public services. He appreciates that this lack of trust stems from an impression that the party is bent on crudely privatising huge chunks of the health and education sectors. But Mr Lilley's attack on the principle of market solutions, which offer a useful additional discipline to the spirit of public service, was of a rare intensity and tone. It cut the ground from under those of his colleagues who are seeking new, and sophisticated, policies. He repudiated a mythical past without offering any sense of a solid future. The Tory future is a *terra incognita* that may never be found by those who are now in charge.

On Monday evening the Shadow Chancellor, Francis Maude, promised to match the additional expenditure on the NHS and schools that has been pledged by the Chancellor. In a limited sense the specific pledge on money already committed could be seen as understandable. Apparent confusion over where the Tories stand on health and education spending has been exploited for nine months by the Labour leadership. It was never likely that the Conservatives could enter the next election committed to rolling back Mr Brown's spending on the NHS.

But this question opens several others for the future. As the economy turns in Mr Brown's direction, he is steadily building up his war chest. He has already proposed an income tax cut and it is certain that there will be further announcements of even more billions of pounds for health and education. Have the Tories decided that they will match such an electoral bid or even attempt to outflank the Chancellor? What scope will be left for tax reform or any other aspect of their potential agenda if they do? Sir Alec Douglas Home once described the 1964 Labour manifesto as a "menu without prices". The Shadow Chancellor has now entered an auction without a ceiling.

When the issue is the public services the Conservatives cannot hope to spend their way to mass affection. Their only prospect is to persuade an increasingly sophisticated electorate that schools and hospitals need to be run differently if they are to be affordable and effective. This was precisely the possibility that Mr Lilley's colleagues felt that his speech closed down. This issue is not, as Mr Hague seems to think, the equivalent of Labour's Clause IV. The Tory message should be, to borrow from the Prime Minister, "what matters is what works".

The local election results on May 6 will probably provide Mr Hague with a respite from his problems. An advance of more than a thousand council seats on a mere 25 per cent turnout may raise morale but will not, in brutal truth, be a good result. The Conservatives have suffered a crisis of clarity not for two years but for at least seven and until that ends they are unlikely to stage a recovery. They are in a deep hole and, for the moment, cannot stop digging.



A BLIP ON THE SCREEN

The West should not assume that Milosevic is weakening

For the past week the British Government has claimed that cracks are appearing in the Yugoslav leadership. George Robertson sees in the revealing television broadcast by Vuk Draskovic, the Deputy Prime Minister, which admitted the gravity of Serbia's predicament, "a hole in the façade". Last week he spoke of "panic and concern" in the Yugoslav High Command. Nato echoes these claims.

Much of this is wishful thinking. The broadcast was indeed the first inkling Serbs have officially been given that they are isolated, that Nato unity has held, and, significantly, that atrocities are being committed in Kosovo that constitute war crimes. It might seem to take some courage to question nationalist-patriotic propaganda at a time when public anger at Nato is intense. But analysts should consider the source. Mr Draskovic has changed direction so many times and with such brazen opportunism that he has ceased to have much domestic credibility.

He began his political career as an *ultra-nationalist proponent* of Greater Serbia and ally of the fascist Vojislav Seselj. But he then turned against the wars in Croatia and Bosnia and recast himself as a liberal opponent of Slobodan Milosevic, bent on rescuing Serbia from isolation. Joining with two other opposition leaders in the "Zajedno alliance", he showed some courage as a leader of protest marches and was arrested and beaten by security forces. But Zajedno, which two years ago was a real focus for political opposition, disintegrated as a result of personal rivalries. In an act widely seen as a betrayal, Mr Draskovic then joined the Government.

The suspicion must therefore be that Mr Milosevic, the master puppeteer, has licensed him to voice his criticisms — as a sop to pent-up resentment on the streets and a feint to fool foreigners that his Government is reasonable and realistic. His aim is to strengthen Western voices for compromise, by using Mr Draskovic to suggest a softening of Belgrade's position. Greeks, Canadians and others minded to give Russian diplomacy every chance will point to Mr Draskovic as evidence that Belgrade may be ready to talk. At home, the broadcast could be useful in flushing out opposition which can then be crushed.

Mr Milosevic has spent a decade outwitting his enemies. The army presents a far greater threat than his powerless lieutenant. He was sufficiently unsure of its loyalty last November to purge its leadership, replacing the chief of staff, head of state security and head of the air force with loyalists and men ready to do his bidding in Kosovo. Last month, he purged the Montenegro army command. But in the senior ranks there are still thought to be many officers appalled by ethnic cleansing and deeply resentful of what they see as a stain on the reputation of an army with considerable professional pride.

A threat might also come from Mr Milosevic's corrupt inner circle of cronies. They see their sources of wealth, from smuggling and the control of state assets and monopolies, disappearing under Nato bombs and their foreign bank accounts frozen. There is neither love nor loyalty in such a circle: few of these profiteers would have qualms if Mr Milosevic encountered the kind of "accident" that his enemies have suffered. He has shown few signs of cracking under pressure. But his paranoia shows in the murder of a prominent newspaper editor and the expulsion and prior censorship of foreign journalists. The apparently impregnable Ceausescu regime in Romania cracked without warning. So could that in Belgrade.

ONLY CONNECT

London's Millennium Bridge links the future with the past

Almost three hundred years ago an elderly man must have thrown wide the windows of his riverside home and gazed out across the waters. And he must have smiled his thin, proud smile at the view. For there, on the far, northern bank of the Thames, his most spendid achievement was slowly growing, rearing its great dome above a city's skyline. The man was Christopher Wren and St Paul's, his cathedral, was to become one of the capital's finest monuments. Yet the view of it which Wren would once have so admired has scarcely been appreciated since. Bankside, where Wren lived, was until recently an inhospitable place, its embankment a litter-strewn strip on the edge of Southwark, one of London's poorest boroughs. And it has been many years since the Thames was crossed by bustling lightermen ferrying passengers.

Soon Wren's view may be enjoyed once more. This morning John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, inaugurates the construction of the Millennium Bridge. Before the year 2000 has passed, a slender steel walkway will have been thrown out across the Thames, joining St Paul's on the north bank with the new Tate Gallery of Modern Art at Bankside. The first pedestrian-only bridge ever to have spanned the river, it will restore to modern Londoners some of the sights of their history. It will form a link with the past.

The best bridges have always been as symbolic as they are serviceable; they have always amounted to more than the sum of their parts or their practicality. Human nature is wary of gaps. Structures are cast out across empty spaces to link times and ideas and communities together. The new Millennium Bridge will help to do all this. One of the few London landmarks genuinely to belong equally to north and south bank dwellers, it will work to knit traditionally divided districts. It will join the financial centres of the City with the world of the Tate, link high-tech skyscrapers to the 16th century in Shakespeare's reconstructed Globe.

Perhaps most importantly, this elegant new structure will help to restore the delights of the Thames to those who live in or visit London. Banked away behind concrete, traversed only by traffic, rarely sensed except through the roar and fume of impatient motors, the river has been neglected. But when the bridge — designed by sculptor Anthony Caro and the architect Sir Norman Foster — is completed, walkers will be able to stroll out across the spaces of the water. They will be able to listen to the slow slap and suck of the tides, smell the salt tinged winds, watch the treacly roll of suspended sediments — sense the essence of an urban river as it captures the spirit of today.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

'Cries of pain' at legal aid reform

From Mr Charles Holcombe

Sir, The Lord Chancellor and the Law Society are at odds over the proposed cuts in legal aid, which is currently running away with £1.6 billion of taxpayers' money (report, "Irvine clashes with Law Society", April 26).

That the Lord Chancellor wishes to change the culture of our litigation scene is admirable, but what organisation in its right mind would agree to curb £1.6 billion of fees?

Of course we all know that the present system is exceptionally adversarial — as anyone who has been through a divorce will no doubt know — but with an almost unlimited supply of money to fight the case, why should lawyers even contemplate killing the proverbial goose?

Expensive full-page adverts by the Law Society this week show just how worried it is that these reforms will affect its members, but most people who do not have any vested interest in these matters will know that a change is drastically needed in the whole culture of our litigation process where lawyers are motivated not by justice, but more often just pure greed, and this is surely wrong.

I hope that the Lord Chancellor will not budge in his reforms.

Sincerely,
C. HOLCOMBE,
6 Dorset Gardens,
Brighton BN2 1RL.
April 26.

From Mr Gerard Cosgrove

Sir, Would not the interests of the individual who features in the Law Society's expensive advertisement today be best served by a competent lawyer (confident in their own ability to gain reward in a no-win, no-fee arrangement) rather than by someone who wanted guaranteed payment regardless of their ability to plead the case successfully?

Or is the Law Society saying that its members deserve to be paid regardless of their competence?

The case, as quoted, looked like a cast-iron cert, but the Law Society seems to be implying that none of its members would touch it with a bargepole unless they had guaranteed money made available.

Yours faithfully,
GERARD COSGROVE,
13 Jarrett Avenue,
Wainscott,
Rochester, Kent ME2 4NN.
April 26.

From Mr Julian Nettlefold

Sir, I am amused by the cries of pain from the Law Society with regard to the Access to Justice Bill.

It is worried that a litigant can only win legal aid if "he can prove he's almost certain to win his case". For decades lawyers have told clients that they are bound to win their case and should immediately apply for legal aid.

Now it appears the Government has at last called their bluff.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN NETTLEFOLD,
3 Barney Mains,
Haddington,
East Lothian EH41 3SA.
j.nettlefold@battle-technology.com
April 26.

Pension claim delays

From Miss Rifat Mushtaq

Sir, On January 11, 1995, I issued proceedings in the then Industrial Tribunal on behalf of a lady who had worked part-time at the same branch of a multinational food company for some 17 years.

She had just retired on her 65th birthday and was ineligible for a pension. This is one of the 45,000 similar cases that have been lodged in the Employment Tribunal. The claim was stayed shortly thereafter.

Now 69, my client, who has never been involved in litigation before, is finding the wait for her claim to be heard stressful. The lead case still has not been determined by the European Court of Justice.

For a long time I have felt that the delay has been a scandal, but I am now extremely anxious, following the decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal in the case of Lewisham and Guys Mental Health Trust v Andrews (Law Report, April 21).

The EAT held that there was no power conferred on the tribunals in either the Race Relations or Sex Discrimination Acts to substitute as claimant the estate of a person who died. I had already been told that a significant number of the claimants have died.

Not only should these cases be expedited but I would suggest that Parliament amends the law forthwith so that the claimants' rights will survive their death.

I write this letter today, when fast-tracking is introduced in the Civil Courts. My client will be too old to enjoy her pension, if ultimately successful, and if she dies her estate cannot benefit. Unscrupulous defendants have every reason to delay the determination of these claims.

Will the Government move quickly to resolve these problems?

Yours faithfully,
RIFAT MUSHTAQ,
Mushtaq and Co (solicitors),
14-16 Bristol Street,
Birmingham B5 7AA.
April 26.

Changing influences on divorce

From Ms Mary Hooper

Sir, The owner of Country Partners, the introduction agency for the over-45s, says husbands "go off with younger women" (report, "Divorce edging out the silver wedding", April 24), but I have found it is more often the older wife who instigates the marriage break-up, usually because she is no longer prepared to put up with her husband's attitudes or treatment of her. Behaviour that we tolerated in our twenties is no longer funny now we are in our fifties.

Those of us who married before the onset of feminism were taught to treat our husbands with deference. They were the men, in charge, heads of households. If, in return, they treated us thoughtlessly, selfishly or without respect then we just had to put up with it.

Since the Seventies, however, a different type of relationship has been possible: a new one where both partners are of equal importance and both have views which matter. Respect, tenderness and love are of paramount importance, and if these are non-existent in a relationship then more and more older women are feeling brave enough to move on.

Yours faithfully,
MARY HOOPER,
27 Bell Road,
East Molesey, Surrey KT8 0SS.
April 24.

From Mr John Foley

Sir, It is hardly surprising that an experienced family solicitor advises that it is most important to choose an experienced family solicitor (feature, "The good divorce guide", April 20). At Families Need Fathers we take the view that the welfare of children is much too important to be left to solicitors and that parents should take control of their own case and represent themselves.

Sadly, this is the only course available for the majority of fathers who cannot afford legal fees and do not qualify for legal aid.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN FOLEY,
17 Ullswater Crescent,
Kingston Vale, SW15 3RG.
April 20.

From Mr Francis Campbell

Sir, In the Child Support Agency's booklet, *For parents who live apart*, the parent who lives with the child or children concerned is called "the parent with care". The other one is called "the non-resident parent". Here are two quotations from the booklet (*my italics*):

Note that the amount you pay may be lower in the minority of cases where the parent with care has substantial income of *her* own.

If the non-resident parent gets Income Support . . . *he* will pay nothing if *he* is sick or disabled or has dependent children in *his* household.

Do not these quotes reveal institutional sexism and prejudice in the CSA?

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS CAMPBELL,
1 Mendip View, Wrington Road,
Congresbury, Somerset BS49 5AN.
April 26.

'Emasculated' local government

From Dr Alister McFarquhar

Sir, Simon Jenkins says ("Cross with St George", April 23) that identity in England centres not on regions but on cities and counties, which merit increased autonomy from central government over, for example, raising local taxes. The current 1998 White Paper proposal to allow local government to increase (but apparently not reduce) the uniform business rate by 1 per cent per annum annually for five years is a derisory shuffle towards devolution. In any case, it seems currently to be on the back burner.

The past two Governments have treated local government like former nationalised industries, dependent on central government for about four-fifths of its finance. Tax and expenditure capping, plus a uniform business rate, have served only to perpetuate its inferior status. Incidentally, how does Government justify a uniform business rate while resisting, on principle, tax harmonisation in Europe?

The penalties of emasculated local government are exacerbated by the current planning system, which is negative and inhibits investment. With some exceptions, where investment is needed for regeneration and employment developers do not want to invest; where they do, the nimbys and environmentalists do not want them.

A business tax over which local governments had substantial control would allow some of them to set rates to attract investment. The revenue generated could be used to compensate objectors for amenity loss associated with profitable local development.

Current proposals for reform reveal a Government and Treasury wishing to retain a vice-like grip on local finance, and a colonial approach to devolution and local democracy.

Yours faithfully,
ALISTER McFARQUHAR,
Downing College,
Cambridge CB2 1DQ.
amm1002@cam.ac.uk
April 25.

EU patron saint

From Mr Keith Havelock

Sir, I commend St Bruno, the patron saint of trade marks and of the Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys, as a patron saint for Europe (letters, April 14 and 21), as the EU is essentially an economic and trading community (or at least we hope it is).

Yours truly,
KEITH HAVELOCK,
Kintail, 25 Beaconsfield Road,
Claygate, Surrey KT10 0PN.
April 21.

From Mr James Thomas

Sir, Plain Hermes — surely a candidate. Messenger and herald of the gods, the divinity of commerce, theft, travellers and rascals. Also regarded as the patron of travellers, merchants, and of thieves, pickpockets and all dishonest persons.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES THOMAS,
6 Hunter Place,
Louth, Lincolnshire LN11 9LG.

From Mrs Susan Maxwell Scott

Sir, If we must have a patron saint for the EU may I suggest St Jude (October 28), the patron saint for lost causes?

Yours sincerely,
SUSAN MAXWELL SCOTT,
12 Kelmscott Road, SW11 6QY.
April 26.

High-tech Latin

From Professor Dennis Wood

Sir, Your frequent and most welcome commentaries on things Roman, notably your recent leaders on the London sarcophagus and the ships discovered at Pisa (April 15 and 21), assume a readership for whom the world of *Lucretius*, "*mare nostrum*" and the technicalities of the "corvus" are more than mere schoolboy memories.

Any such readers who wish to keep alive, whether passively or actively, the language of Cicero might consider joining the "Grex Latine loquentium" (e-mail *listserv@plearn.edu.pl*), where they will read arguments about Kosovo, Virgilian hexameters and discussion of the game of *latrunculi*, all composed in Classical Latin.

Yours faithfully,
DENNIS WOOD,
12 Selly Wick Drive,
Selly Park, Birmingham B29 7JH.
d.m.wood@bham.ac.uk
April 23.

Classical mix-up

From Mr Damian Boddy

Sir, The use of Latin, Italian or any other foreign tags (letter, April 27), should only be *faute de mieux*.

Yours faithfully,
DAMIAN BODDY,
113 Kenyon Lane, Croft,
Warrington, Cheshire WA3 7DU.
April 27.

Branson's business

From Mr Brian Basham

Sir, On September 8 last year you published an extract from Richard Branson's autobiography, under the headline "*If I was going to stop BA's* Dirty Tricks Campaign, I needed proof".

At that time I was still embroiled in libel actions, which I won, against the author and publisher of the book, *Dirty Tricks*, which covered much of the same ground as your serialisation.

Your extract failed to reflect that in his book Branson himself mitigates the accusations levelled against me. As an example, he concedes that I was engaged in corporate research, when he says (page 374): "*To be fair to* Basham, he was concentrating on Virgin's corporate profile."

Your readers were informed that I told a reporter that a rumour was circulating that Virgin Atlantic was having to pay cash for fuel. They were not told (page 381) that I warned the journalist that the truth of the rumour could not be verified by BA.

You also omitted evidence that confirms the accuracy of my research. No reference was made to Branson's many cash crisis admissions, in particular (page 322):

Signing Janet Jackson would send out the right message to all the people in the City and the CAA who might believe the British Airways rumours that the Virgin Group was suffering a cash crisis. The only trouble was that we were indeed suffering a cash crisis.

These facts support my contention that I conducted an objective and accurate assessment of Branson's business which was far removed from *dirty tricks*.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN BASHAM,
14 Elsworthy Rise, NW3 3SH.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Reporting of Jill Dando's murder

From the Rector of St Michael, Cornhill and St Sepulchre-Without-Newgate

Sir, Jill Dando was a competent and likeable television presenter and the news of her murder has shocked and saddened us all, but the effusiveness of the BBC's coverage of the event was out of all proportion: the first 15 minutes of the six o'clock television news given over entirely, not only to report, but to maudlin and sentimental biographical reminiscence.

Our prayers and sympathy are with her family, but one is bound to wonder, if this is the measure of coverage when a TV star dies, what words will be left when it comes to having to report the death of the monarch?

Yours sincerely,
PETER MULLEN,
The Watch House,
10 Giltspur Street, EC1A 9DE.
April 26.

From Dr Dominic Horne

Sir, On the day of the funeral of six employees of Serbian television it was interesting to contrast the reporting of and reaction to the murder of one of their British colleagues. In my opinion their killing was not any less heinous an act and no less deserving of our revulsion.

Yours sincerely,
DOMINIC HORNE,
30 Dalmeny Road,
Edinburgh EH6 4QY.
April 26.

From Mr R. A. D. Orchard

Sir, After Dunblane *The Times* was four-square behind the banning of handguns, in this country, which deprived thousands of sportsmen of their hobby.

Today, following the tragic murder of Jill Dando, your Home Correspondent Richard Ford states (later editions) that "one reason for the rise of the hitman is the much greater availability of handguns". You cannot have it both ways; with the threat of ten years' imprisonment for non-compliance, legally held pistols were handed in.

It appears that, far from improved public safety, there is suddenly a greater availability; most strange.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. D. ORCHARD,
12 Elm Close,
Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 1SQ.
April 27.

Violent video games

From Dr Mark Griffiths

Sir, I would like to add to my comments in Valerie Grove's article (April 24) about violent video games. The Denver massacre raises interesting questions about the effects of video-game violence on social behaviour. Despite continuing controversy for more than 15 years, there has been little in the way of systematic research on whether video games have the same effect regardless of age. The one consistent finding is that the majority of the studies on very young children — as opposed to those in their teens upwards — tend to show that children do become more aggressive after either playing or watching a violent video game.

There is also the social context of playing. Does playing in groups or individually, with or against each other, make a difference? Recent research suggests that competitiveness increases aggression. There are also problems concerning the definition of "violent" or "aggressive" as there are numerous television cartoons such as Tom and Jerry which may not be regarded as violent within definitions employed in media research. Therefore, research into the effects of long-term exposure to violent video games remains speculative.

Yours faithfully,
MARK GRIFFITHS
(Reader in psychology; author, *Video Game Playing in Children and Adolescents*, Park Published Papers, 1997),
The Nottingham Trent University,
Burton Street, Nottingham NG1 4BU.
April 26.

Cavalry in battle

From Mr Richard Winward

Sir, As a former footsoldier I often used to ask what possible use cavalry could be in modern warfare (letter, April 19). The answer, delivered with hauteur, was invariably along the lines of the old *Punch* cartoon: "To add a little tone to what would otherwise be a vulgar brawl."

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WINWARD,
New House, Brook Street,
North Newton, Bridgwater TA7 0BL.
April 19.

Recorded delivery

From Mr Allen Watson

Sir, If the announcement to abandon the aircraft is a recorded message (reports, April 26 and 27), does this mean the crew have already jumped?

Yours faithfully,
ALLEN WATSON,
32 Baldwin Road, Greatstone,
New Romney, Kent TN28 8SY.
April 27.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 22: By command of The Queen, Vice Admiral Sir James Weatherall (Marshall of the Diplomatic Corps) called upon His Excellency Mr Derick Heaven at 1-2 Prince Consort Road, London, this afternoon, in order to bid farewell to His Excellency upon relinquishing his appointment as High Commissioner for Jamaica in London.
April 27: The Governor-General of Australia and Lady Deane were invited to Lunch with The Queen.
April 27: The Duke of Edinburgh this morning departed from Riyadh for Jedda.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited Old Jedda.

The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended The Queen's Birthday Party Reception at the British Consulate General and later attended a Dinner with The Crown Prince.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 27: The Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, this morning presented the Community Enterprise Awards 1999.

His Royal Highness, President, The King's Fund, this afternoon received the Fund's Chief Executive, Rabbi Julia Neuberger.

The Prince of Wales, President, The Mary Rose Trust, received the Trust's Chairman, Sir David Cooksey.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 27: The Princess Royal, Colonel in Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, undertook the following engagements:

Her Royal Highness this morning visited the Riding Stables at Happy Valley.

The Princess Royal afterwards unveiled the Joint Service Signal Unit (Ayios Nikolaos) Crest at Happy Valley.

Her Royal Highness subsequently viewed the Ayios Nikolaos Primary School and Youth Club presentations at Happy Valley.

The Princess Royal later watched the second half of the Joint Service Signal Unit Rugby 7s match at the Rugby pitch, Happy Valley.

Her Royal Highness afterwards visited 259 Signal Squadron at Happy Valley and watched a display by the Red Arrows at Lemmines Beach.

The Princess Royal today attended a luncheon at the Sergeants' Mess, RAF Akrotiri.

Her Royal Highness, Colonel in Chief, The Royal Logistic Corps, undertook the following engagements:

The Princess Royal this afternoon visited the Cyprus Logistics Unit Headquarters at RAF Akrotiri.

Her Royal Highness visited the Royal Logistic Corp's Vessel *Andalsnes* at Akrotiri Mole.

The Princess Royal later departed Cyprus for Egypt and was received at Cairo International Airport by The British Ambassador to Egypt (His Excellency Sir David Blatherwick).

Her Royal Highness this evening attended a Dinner given by the Minister of Culture (Mr Farouq Hosni) at Beit Al-Harawi, Cairo.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 27: The Duke of Gloucester this evening attended a Church Army Service of Thanksgiving and Reception in Derby Cathedral and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Derbyshire (Mr John Bather).

The Duchess of Gloucester today visited Lincolnshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Mrs Bridget Cracroft-Eley)

Her Royal Highness opened the new buildings at the Deepings School, Deeping St James, Lincolnshire.

The Duchess of Gloucester afterwards visited Holbeach Hospital, Holbeach, Lincolnshire.

Her Royal Highness later opened the new premises of Nursery Supplies (Bourne) Ltd, Spalding Road, Bourne, Lincolnshire.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 27: The Duke of Kent this morning visited Cheshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cheshire (Mr William Bromley Davenport).

His Royal Highness then officially opened Business Connections 99 exhibition, at the Burtonwood Arena, Warrington.

The Duke of Kent later officially opened the Auto Quest Stadium, Widnes

His Royal Highness this afternoon officially opened the Millennium Learning Centre at Priestley Sixth Form & Community College, Warrington.

The Duke of Kent, Grand President, United Grand Lodge of England, this evening attended a dinner in honour of the Grand Master of Sweden, at the Great Hall, Lincoln's Inn, London.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
April 27: Princess Alexandra, Colonel-in-Chief, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, this afternoon visited Bourlon Barracks, Catterick, Garrison, to meet families of soldiers from the Regiment and from 5 Regiment Royal Artillery who are involved in the current NATO action.

Lord Denning, OM

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Denning will be held in Westminster Abbey at 6pm on Thursday, June 17. Those wishing to attend are asked to apply in writing, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, to: The Assistant Receiver General (Protocol), Room 17, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey, London, SW1P 3PA. Tickets will be posted by June 3. All are welcome to apply for tickets. There will be a retiring Collection for the benefit of the Denning Fund which assists in funding the training of Barristers. Those unable to attend may wish to make a donation to: The Appeals Secretary, The Denning Fund, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2A 3TL.

Sir Robin Dent, KCVO

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Robin Dent will be held at St Luke's Church, Sydney Street, SW3, at noon on Thursday, May 20.

George Ross Goobey

A memorial service to celebrate the life of George Henry Ross Goobey will be held on May 20, 1999, at St Lawrence Jewry-next-Guildhall, London, EC2, at 11.30am.

Birthdays today

Lady Helen Taylor celebrates her 35th birthday today.

Mr P.T. Bateman, executive chairman, Robert Fleming Asset Management, 53; Mr Ian Beer, former Head Master, Harrow School, 68; Professor Hugh Bentall, cardiac surgeon, 79; Mr Edward Bonnor-Maurice, former chairman, British Horse Society, 71; Mr Mike Brearley, cricketer and psychoanalyst, 57; Baroness Carnegy of Lour, 74; Sir Ivor Cohen, former chairman, Remploy, 68; Mr A.J. Colvin, Comptroller and City Solicitor, Corporation of London, 52; Commandant Elizabeth Craig-McFeely, former director, WRNS, 72; Mr Duane Eddy, guitarist, 61; Mr Tony Ford, director, Crafts Council, 61; Dr Kenneth Kaunda, former President of Zambia, 75; Professor Nicola LeFanu, composer, 52; Sir John Leonard, former High Court judge, 73; Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor, 75; Dr M.D. Longfield, former director, Teesside Polytechnic, 71; Mr John Madejski, former chairman, Hurst Publishing, 58; Mr William Moodie, former Chief Constable, Fife, 68; Sir Dai Rees, FRS, former chief executive, Medical Research Council, 63; Dr Jeffrey Tate, conductor, 56; Mr J.L. Thorn, former Headmaster, Winchester College, 74; Mr Garry Weston, chairman, Associated British Foods, 72; Mrs Helen Williams, former High Mistress, St Paul's Girls' School, 61; Mr Kenneth Williams, Chief Constable, Norfolk, 55.



RICHARD CANNON

The judges take a close look at a display of geraniums at the Royal Horticultural Society show at Westminster yesterday

Duke puts on a rare display of favourite plants

By Alan Toogood
HORTICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

JIM LINK, the head gardener at Chatsworth, Derbyshire, is retiring in September after 50 years service with the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire. Ian Webster, with 27 years' service at Chatsworth, will then be heading the gardening team.

To celebrate these changes, the duke and duchess have staged a display of plants grown in the Chatsworth greenhouses at the Royal Horticultural Society's flower show. These plants are used at the house for decoration and include many of the duke's favourites such as camellias, orchids, gardenias, tender lavenders and *Pamianthe peruviana*, an evergreen bulb with white, very fragrant flowers, somewhat resembling those of daffodils.

This is a rare opportunity to see this private collection, last staged at Westminster ten years ago, as the Chatsworth greenhouses are not open to the public.

The show, which opened in Westminster yesterday, also features a large exhibit of hybrid rhododendrons. Such displays of rhododendrons are usually reserved for shows such as Chelsea, so this gold medal collection, staged by Knaphill and Slowcock Nurseries, of Knaphill, Surrey, is particularly welcome at this event. It features many hybrids bred at the nurseries, such as "Ripe Corn" in corn yellow, lightly tinted pink and cream, pink and lime green "Greensleeves" both superb recent introductions raised by Oliver Slowcock.

Two national plant collections are featured at the show. Brenda Hyatt, of Bluebell Hill, Kent, is showing part of the national collection of show auriculas (green, grey and white edged). Apart from gems from the past, the exhibit also highlights the recent breeding work of Tim Coop, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, a top exhibitor at auricula shows and a gifted breeder. Mr Coop specialises in fancy green, grey and white edged show auriculas and is producing hybrids in beautiful and unusual colour combinations.

The National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens of RHS Garden, Wisley, Surrey, is showing part of the national collection of narcissus or daffodils. The exhibit shows the work of many outstanding daffodil breeders from the past and present, and illustrates how the daffodil has improved over the years. One of the oldest on display is "White Lady", pre-1897; one of the newest is "Ballyrobert", a deep yellow trumpet daffodil introduced in 1991.

Other gold medallists are Dibleys of Ruthin, Denbighshire (showing streptocarpus) and Southfield Nurseries, of Morton, Lincolnshire (showing flowering cacti).

Several competitions are being held with the show. In the RHS main rhododendron competition, Mr Edmund de Rothschild, of Exbury Gardens, Hampshire, has won the Lionel de Rothschild Challenge Cup for six species, the Roza Stevenson Challenge Cup for a species, first prize for six hybrids (including the Exbury-raised, yellow Hawk "Crest") and the Crosfield Challenge Cup for three hybrids raised in the exhibitor's garden (including yellow "Jessica de Rothschild"). Brian Wright, of Crowborough, East Sussex, has won the McLaren Challenge Cup for a species, and the Loder Challenge Cup for a hybrid. In the RHS ornamental plants competition, the Earl and Countess of March, of Goodwood Estate, West Sussex, have won first prize for four different flowering shrubs.

Mr Brian S. Duncan, of Omagh, Co Tyrone, has fared well in the RHS late daffodil competition, winning the John Lea trophy for 12 cultivars bred by the exhibitor, and the Devonshire Trophy for 12 cultivars.

Anna Ware, of Dorchester, Dorset, has won the Walter Blom Trophy for nine blues in the RHS tulip competition.

In the Royal National Rose Society's spring competition, Mrs Gerta Gray, of Little Barney, Norfolk, has won the prize for best specimen bloom with large-flowered "Sunderland Supreme".

The best plant in the Bonsai Kai competition is a 20-year old multi-stemmed *Acer palmatum* (Japanese maple), shown by Mr Colin Ellis, of London.

The show, in the New Horticultural Hall, Greycoat Street, Westminster, is open today from 10am to 5pm.

Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales will open the Dudley Stationery Distribution Centre, holders of the Prince of Wales's Warrant, at Crown Close, Wick Lane, Bow, London E3.

The Duke of Kent, Grand Master, United Grand Lodge of England, will attend the annual Investiture at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London SW2 at 3.15, and will attend the Grand Festival dinner at the Savoy Hotel at 6.15.

Princess Alexandra, Deputy Honorary Colonel, will visit The Royal Yeomanry at the Duke of York's Headquarters, London SW3.

For more details about the Royal Family visit the royal website at: www.royal.gov.uk

School news

Holmewood House, Langton Green

A history of Holmewood House, Langton Green, Kent, *The First Fifty years* is now available from the School Office. Telephone 01892 860000.

Memorial services

Lady (Gweneth) Cook

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Lady Cook was held on April 21 at the Church of St Peter and St Paul, Fakenham. The Rev Alan Bell, Rector of Fakenham, officiated, assisted by the Rev Alan Greenhough, Rector of the Guist group of churches, and the Rev Hugh Edsell, Chaplain, Order of St John. Mr Andrew Scott gave an address.

Standard Bearers from the Women's Section the Royal British Legion provided a guard of honour.

Members of the family and friends from every generation and representatives from St John Ambulance, the Royal British Legion, the Harriers and Beagles Association, the North Norfolk Harriers, Fakenham Festival of Music and Art and the North Norfolk Conservative Association, were among those present.

Mr George Murcell

A memorial service for the life of Mr George Murcell, actor and artiste, was held yesterday at St Paul's, Covent Garden. Canon John Hester, Southern area Chaplain of the Actor's Church Union, officiated.

Mr Joseph O'Connor read the lesson. Mr James Hayes read the *Seven Ages of Man*, Ms Margaret Wolfit read from the works of John Donne and Miss Rosemary Leach also gave a reading. *Fear no more the heat of the sun* was arranged and sung by Mr Peter Gale and *Hey! Ho! the wind and the rain* was sung by Mr Michael Sadler.

Sir Stephen Tumim and Mr Ian Flintoff gave addresses.

Members of the family, friends and former colleagues were among those present.

Lord Kingsdown, KG, Lord-Lieutenant of Kent, and Lady Kingsdown were present at the service of thanksgiving for the life of the Earl of Guilford held on Monday in Dover.

Dinners

Insurers' Company

Lord Marshall of Knightsbridge, accompanied by Lady Marshall, was the principal guest at an Insurers' Company dinner held last night at the Mansion House. Mr Peter H. Purchon, Master, assisted by Mr Michael Pickard and Mr Dieter Losse, Wardens, was the host.

Engineers' Company

Mr Richard Rooley, Master of the Engineers' Company, assisted by the Wardens, Dr L.J. Weaver, Mr A.G. Jackson and Mr R.J.R. Cousins, presided and presented the company awards for engineering excellence and achievement at the installation dinner held last night at Merchant Taylors' Hall. Mr Alderman Clive Martin also spoke.

Old Mercers' Club

The Upper Warden, the House Warden and the Renter Warden of the Mercers' Company were the principal guests at the annual dinner of the Old Mercers' Club held last night at Mercers' Hall. Mr G.C.E. Snowling, president, was in the chair.

NADFAS

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu gave the NADFAS lecture which was chaired by Dr Timothy Clifford, President of NADFAS, on April 27, at Kensington Town Hall. Dame Elizabeth Esteve-Coll, a Vice-President of NADFAS, presented the NADFAS Media awards. At the preceeding Annual General Meeting, the following officers were elected:

Pamela Cohn, Chairman; Jean Read, Vice-Chairman; Bernard Green, Hon Treasurer.

Luncheon

Newspaper Conference

Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, OM, was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon of the Newspaper Conference held yesterday at Bloomsbury House, London. Mr Paul Linford, chairman of the conference, presided.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.H. Annan and Miss I.C. Barlow

The engagement is announced between Richard Heath, son of Mr John Douglas Annan, of Zimbabwe, and of Mrs Patricia Holroyd, of South Africa, and Imogen Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen Barlow, of Slebech, Pembrokeshire.

Mr B.J. Atkinson and Miss D.M. Chapman

The engagement is announced between Benjamin John, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Atkinson, of Haconby, Lincolnshire, and Deborah Mary, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Chapman, of Billingborough, Lincolnshire.

Mr J-N. Evans Lombe and Miss R.L. Martell

The engagement is announced between James-Nicholas, elder son of Mr and Mrs Peter Evans Lombe, of Roydon, Norfolk, and Lucy, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Martell, of Shotley Bridge, Northumberland.

Mr S.J. Goaman and Miss L.C. Nutley

The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Goaman, of Elmscott Farm, Hartland, Devon, and Lucy, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Nutley, of Burnham, Buckinghamshire.

Mr F.C. Hawkings-Byass and Mrs L.E. Milburn

The engagement is announced between Frederick, son of Mr John Hawkings-Byass, of East Peckham, Kent, and Mrs Julie Hawkings-Byass, of St Mary Bourne, Hampshire, and Louise, daughter of Mr Derek Richards and the late Mrs Richards, of Hoxne, Suffolk.

Mr J.E.S. Hickman and Miss A.L. Aves

The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr Jeremy Hickman, of Upper Onibury, Shropshire, and Mrs Rosemary Hickman, of Saddlebow, Herefordshire, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Aves, of Putney, London.

Mr J.W.D. Hobro and Miss C.E. Roberts

The engagement is announced between James William Douglas, only son of Mr André Hobro and Mrs Elisabeth Hobro, both of Coventry, and Clare Emma, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Roberts, of Cheltenham.

The Rev M.M. Miller and Miss L.M. Hargreaves

The engagement is announced between Martin, younger son of Mr David Miller, of Johannesburg, South Africa, and Mrs Joan Rhys-James, of Worthing, Sussex, and Lucy, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Hargreaves, of Canterbury, Kent.

Marriages

Mr I.J. Hiscock and Miss S.C. Baird

The marriage took place on Saturday, April 24, 1999, at St Mary Magdalene, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, of Mr Ian Hiscock, son of Mr and Mrs Barry Hiscock, of Broadstone, Poole, to Miss Susan Baird, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Baird, of Stoke Bishop, Bristol.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Liz Norman and Frankie Sears. Mr Matthew Jones was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr A.D. Tarr and Miss V.S.M. Smith

The marriage took place on Saturday, April 24, 1999, at All Saints Church, Fulham, of Mr Andrew Tarr to Miss Vanessa Smith.

A reception was held at The Duke of York's Barracks, Kings Road.

PERSONAL COLUMN

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

TRADE; 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Some friends don't help, but a true friend is closer than your own family. Proverbs 18.24 (CEV).

BIRTHS

AMBEKAR - On April 24th at The Portland Hospital, to Carol (née Bourke) and Ajit, a daughter, Maya, a sister for Ameet and Neil.

BLAKE/BERRYMAN - On April 12th 1999 in London to Saffron Berryman and James (Joss) Blake, a son, River Tyler Sacha Blake.

BOURNE-ARTON - On 22nd April to Richard and Daphne the precious gift of a son, George William Kidman, a brother for Holly - always remembering William.

CARLSON - Deborah and Ian are proud to announce the birth of their son, Oliver James on 21st April.

CLIFTON - On April 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Peta (née Beard) and Ivo, a son, Henry (Harry) Robert Stuart Bligh.

DIXON - On April 26th 1999, to Clare (née Bertram) and William, a daughter, Georgina Lucy, a sister for Harriette and Holly.

FLOE - On April 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Abigail and Chad, twin sons, Nicholas and Cameron, brothers for Hilary, Christina and Alexandra.

GEORGE - On April 20th, to Sophie and Tom, a son, Noel Anthony Child.

HALL - In Zimbabwe to David and Marian (née Easter) a son Richard Glenn, a brother for Andrew, Jimmy and Stuart.

HALL - On April 23rd at the Mayday Hospital but cared for at The Portland Hospital, to Andrea (née Kupferman) and David, a daughter, Isabel Eve.

HOLMES - On April 20th 1999 to Catherine (née Whittaker) and Peter, a daughter, Madeleine Rose Hanby.

BIRTHS

LYKIARDOPULO - On April 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Alexandra (née Goulandris) and Michael, a daughter, Marina Evdokia, a sister for Nicholas.

MYHRE - On 22nd April, in Boston Massachusetts, to Kim and Susanna, a wonderful daughter, Charlotte Georgia, a sister for Jake.

NORTHWOOD - On April 23rd 1999, to Annabel (née Thomas) and Christopher, a son, Alexander James, a brother for Christian and Madeleine.

ROSSITER - On 22nd April 1999 to Sally (née Tuff) and Nigel, a son, Jonah Edward, a brother for Jack and Sam.

SHURMAN - On 13th April 1999 to Julia (née Bainbridge) and Daniel, a son, Thomas William.

WEBB-JOHNSON - On 25th April 1999 to Adrian and Susan (née MacDonald) of Boston, USA, a daughter, Sadie Jane.

YEAGLE - On April 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Lisa and James, a daughter, Olivia Anne.

DEATHS

ACTON - Charles, April 22nd 1999, late of The Irish Times, died peacefully at his home Carrickmines Station, Dublin 18, in the care of Carol his loving wife for 48 years. Buried in his family graveyard at Dunganstown, Co Wicklow on Tuesday 27th April, two days after his 85th birthday. "If music be the food of love, play on".

ALLEN - Henry Gregory of Ebury Street, London SW1 on April 25th 1999. Requiem Mass at St Marys Church, Cadogan Street, London SW3 on Monday May 10th at 12.00pm. No flowers by request. Donations may be sent to the Stroke Association, c/o Mears and Cotterill, 169 Merton Road, London SW18 5EF. Enquiries to Charles Phillips on 0181 567 6663.

DEATHS

ADDISON - Wendy Blyth. On April 27th died peacefully. Beloved mother of Jill and Michael. Funeral at 3.00pm, Friday 7th May at Old Alresford Church.

AMIN - Patricia Ann (née Fortescue) died on Saturday 17th April peacefully at home. Loved Mother of James, Paul and Mark. Service of Thanksgiving will take place at St Mary's Church, Bishops Cannings, near Devizes, Wiltshire on Friday 14th May at 12 noon.

ATCHESON - Audrie, who died peacefully, on 25th April 1999, after a short illness. Beloved wife of Ferdie and mother of Tony. Funeral: Friday 30th April, 12 noon, All Saints, Luddington, Stratford-upon-Avon. Donations to National Canine Defence League c/o AE Bennett & Sons, 34 Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6EE.

BRANFORD - Henrietta Diana Primrose Longstaff, celebrated children's author, 53, died of breast cancer peacefully at home with her husband and three children on April 23rd 1999. Private cremation. All welcome to attend celebration and reflection on her life and work at Southampton Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Southampton, 5.30 pm Tuesday May 4th 1999. No flowers. Donations to Wessex Cancer Trust or Oxfam, c/o Co-operative Funeral Home, The Lawns, 461 Butts Road, Sholing, Southampton, tel: (01703) 448322.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

BARBER-FLEMING - Suddenly after a short illness on Friday 23rd April 1999 Anthony John (Tony), dearly loved husband of Val, a loving father of Victoria and Tom, also a much loved son of Margie and the late Tony Barber-Fleming. Service of Thanksgiving in Kincardine-in-Menteith Parish Church, Blairdrummond by Stirling, today Wednesday 28th April at 2 pm. Interment thereafter at Blairdrummond Cemetery.

BRUNSDON - Maria B.Ed. M.A., Deputy Headteacher, on 21st April 1999 suddenly at home after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Dearly beloved wife of Paul, much loved daughter of Salvatore and Giuseppa, sister of Maddalena and Teresa and aunt to Laura and Catherine. She will be greatly missed. Requiem Mass at St John the Baptist's Church, Kemp Town, Brighton on Thursday 29th April at 10am, followed by cremation at Woodvale. Flowers or donations to Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o Attree & Kent, 108 Church Road, Hove, tel: (01273) 821985.

CHAMBERS - Peter, of Caldy, peacefully at Murrayfield Hospital, Wirral on April 26th 1999. Beloved husband of Dorothy, dear father of Gillian and Paul and loving grandfather of Philip, Andrew and Emma. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Landican Crematorium, Wirral at 2pm, Thursday April 29th. Family flowers only. Donations in his memory to Claire House, c/o Quinns F/S, Wirral, CH48 4EF. Tel 0151 625 5274.

CLANCY - Gerard on February 1st in London. Funeral Mass at the Servite Priory Church, Fulham Road SW10 at 10.00 am on Thursday 6th May followed by burial in Brompton Cemetery. Flowers to Chelsea F/D, 260b Fulham Road, tel 0171 352 0008.

COCKRILL - On April 24th after a short illness William Ross Cockrill F.R.C.V.S., Doc. Vet. Med. (Zurich), M.R.C.V.S., formerly of F.A.O., Rome. Loving husband, father and grandfather. Cremation 1 pm Lewisham Crematorium, Friday April 30th. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the Salvation Army c/o F. Chappell & Sons, Funeral Directors, 4 Lee High Road, London SE13 5LQ.

COOKE - On 24th April suddenly at home Terence R.F., beloved husband of Pamela and father of Sarah and Simon. Funeral service at Chichester Crematorium 3pm Wednesday 5th May. Family flowers only or donations if desired to The National Asthma Campaign, c/o Edward White and Son, 5 South Pallant, Chichester PO19 1SY.

DARMADY - On 24th April 1999 peacefully at her daughter's home, Mary, beloved wife of the late Professor Michael Darmady and wonderful mother to John, Judith and Sarah and grandmother to Peter, Fiona, Simon and Lucy. Private cremation. Interment and Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's, Compton, Chichester on Tuesday, 4th May at 3.30 pm. Family flowers but donations to the Ungureni Orphanage Trust (Romania) would be much appreciated.

de BOER - Anthony Peter C.B.E. peacefully after a long illness patiently borne on 24th April 1999 aged 80 years. Dearly loved husband of Pam, devoted father to Chris and grandfather to Sally and Niki. Funeral Service at Woodvale Crematorium, Brighton on Tuesday 4th May at 11.30 am. Family flowers only but donations if desired for Cancer Relief MacMillan Fund may be sent to Bowley Funeral Service, 30 Keymer Road, Hassocks, West Sussex BN6 8AN. Tel: 01273 841711.

DENNEY - Gillian May, on April 22nd peacefully at Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford, after her brave fight against cancer. Dearly loved wife of Gordon, and loving mother of the late Jonathan, who will be greatly missed by many. The funeral service will take place at All Saints Church, Woodham (nr. Six Crossroads) on May 4th at 1 pm. Donations, if desired, to the Cancer Research Campaign c/o Woking Funeral Service, 119/121 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 1LR, tel: (01483) 772266.

DICKINSON - Neal Dickinson MBE of Stanley, Co. Durham, on 15th April aged 68 years. Beloved husband of Jacqueline, a dear father and grandfather and much loved by all the family. Friends please meet for service in Kyo Laws Methodist Church, Co. Durham, on Friday 30th April at 1.45 pm, followed by cremation at Mountsett Crematorium, Dipton. No flowers by request, donations in lieu to N.C.H. Action for Children c/o Mr David Forster, Fines House, Annfield Plain, Stanley, Co. Durham DH9 8QU.

EDWARDS - John Lionel. Suddenly on 23rd April 1999, at the age of 83. Beloved husband of the late Cecily Edwards (née Miller); father of Julia, Rosemary and Christopher; grandfather of Ellie, Max, Olivia, Harry, Thomas and Susanna. Funeral at St Nicholas Church, Pyrford at 12 noon on Friday 30th April; flowers to G. Boutell & Son, 50 High Road, Byfleet (01932 345037), or donations if desired to Oxfam.

GIBBONS - John Robert Pelham M.B.E. T.D. F.R.C.S. F.C.C.P. Died on the 23rd April, St Georges Day at St Thomas' Hospital, Westminster. Much loved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. Family funeral. A memorial service to be announced later. No flowers. Donations to the Thoracic Research Fund, The Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast or The Royal Airborne Forces Trust, Aldershot. 'A Surgeon and Soldier, he loved to heal the hurts and the hearts of the children of men.'

GREEN - The Reverend Canon Dennis John, on 21st April at his home, The Black Hostelry, Ely. Husband of Sylvia and much loved father of Judith and Caroline. Funeral at Ely Cathedral today, Wednesday 28th April at 1.45 pm. Donations, if desired, to the Cathedral Office, Ely Cathedral.

GREIG - Dr. Alexander died peacefully after a long illness on 25th April 1999, widower of the late Janetta Catherine Margaret (née Boath), much loved father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service to be held at the United Reformed Church, Upminster, Essex on Wednesday 5th May 1999 at 12 noon. Family flowers only but donations if desired to R.N.L.I. c/o B.F. Mulley & Son tel: (01708) 220330.

HALLAM - Reg Hallam, Group Captain RAF (ret'd), aged 62, died suddenly at home Sunday 25th April. Beloved husband of Alwyne, adored father of Louise and James and son-in-law Tim. Adored grandfather of Megan and Georgina. Sadly very much missed. Funeral service at All Saints Church, Fleet, Hampshire on Wednesday 5th May at 2.00pm. Donations (if desired), to The British Heart Foundation c/o Goddard Ltd F/D, Kent Road, Fleet. 01252 616431.

HANCOCK - Gerald Edward, peacefully on April 25th at Trembaths Nursing Home, Letchworth, in his 98th year. Loving and much loved Husband of Diana for 54 happy years. Devoted Father of John and Sue, dear Grandad and Oompah of Rachel, Nicola, Josh, David and Mark. Much respected Father-in-law of Vic and Barbara. Thanksgiving Service at Harwood Park Crematorium, Stevenage, Herts, at 11.45 am on Saturday 1st May. Family flowers only. Donations if wished for Kosovo Relief c/o E.H. Crouch, 52 Station Road, Letchworth, Herts. tel: (01462) 682868.

HARGREAVES - Derek Burtt, retired Chairman SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield) Ltd., on 24th April aged 86.

HILL - Dr. John Arthur Hill passed away peacefully on 22nd April 1999 at Fallowfield Nursing Home, Bromley, formerly of Shortlands, Bromley. Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday 4th May at Beckenham Crematorium 2.30 pm. Donations to R.S.P.C.A. c/o Francis Chappell & Sons, 231 High Street, Bromley, BR1 1NZ, tel: (0181) 460-1720.

HUNT - Anthony Patrick on 26th April at Sutton Manor, Sutton Scotney. Much loved husband of Joan and stepfather of Iain. Thanksgiving Service to be arranged. No flowers but donations to Naomi House Childrens Hospice, Sutton Scotney.

DEATHS

LONSDALE - Commander The Rev'd Canon Rupert (Lonsdale) R.N. Rtd on Sunday 25th April aged 94 years. Husband of Ethné and father of John. Cremation, Bournemouth Crematorium at 12.30 7th May. No flowers please, donations, if desired, to Submarine Centennial Appeal, c/o R.N. Submarine Museum, Gosport, Hants or R.N.L.I. Memorial Service in London to be announced.

MARRIOTT - Jean (née Carley), beloved wife of William, died suddenly but peacefully on 20th April 1999. Will be sadly missed by all her family. Funeral service at Barton Parish Church, Cambridgeshire on Friday 30th April at 12 noon. Enquiries to H J Paintin Ltd, Linton, Cambs. Tel 01223 891226.

McCREA - Sir William Hunter F.R.S. on 25th April 1999 peacefully after a long illness, aged 94 years. Husband of the late Marian N.C. (née Webster), father of Roderick, Isabel and Sheila, and beloved grandfather. Private cremation. Memorial service date to be announced. No flowers, donations if wished to R.N.I.B. or Macmillan Nurses, c/o Cooper & Son Funeral Service, 42 High Street, Lewes. Tel 01273 475557.

MILLAN - On 24th April 1999 peacefully at St Barnabas Hospice, Marguerite. Much loved mother of Susan and Sheila. Loved by son-in-law Tim and Yianni and grand children Thomas, Andrew, Artemis, Jocasta, Thyone and Maximillian. Sadly missed by her many good friends and all the family. Service at St Columba's Church, St Michaels Road, Worthing on Friday, 30th April at 3.00pm followed by cremation. Family flowers only please but if desired donations to St Barnabas Hospice, c/o H. D. Tribe Ltd, 259 Goring Road, Worthing. Telephone 01903 249913.

MOLLOY - Passed away peacefully in his sleep on 26th April 1999 at his home, Edward. The loving husband of Muriel, a dear father of Michael Edward, special grandad of Harry Thomas Edward, a dear father-in-law of Wendy and a beloved brother. He will be sadly missed by all. Funeral service to be held at Rochdale Crematorium on Friday 30th April at 11.10am. Family flowers only please. Further enquiries to Dixons Funeral Service, 2 Manchester Road, Rochdale, OL11 4HY. Tel 01706 645501.

MOORE - John, on April 24th peacefully at home. Beloved husband of Joyce, father of Roger and Jonathan, and grandfather. A wonderful man who loved life, he will be much missed by all his family and friends. Squadron Leader Moore served his country with pride in WW3 and was mentioned in despatches three times. Funeral at Beckenham Crematorium, Elmers End at 1 pm on Tuesday 4th May. Family flowers only. Donations to the RAF Benevolent Fund, c/o Francis Chappell, 238 High Street, Beckenham. Tel: 0181 650 0304.

MUSMAN - Chloë (née Holland) on April 25th in Oxford after a short illness. Beloved mother of Melanie and Rosalind and grandmother of Tam, Lenny, Laura, Michael and Ewan. Funeral at Oxford Crematorium, 1st May at 11.30am.

O'CONNOR - Patricia Jeanette (née Stuart), beloved wife of the late Surgeon Captain Rory O'Connor RN and mother of Caroline, Gabrielle, Sean, Piers and the late Dermot. Died peacefully on 26th April 1999 after a long and brave fight against cancer. Funeral to be at St Thomas' Church, Rylston Road, Fulham at 12 noon on Friday 30th April. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Research.



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OBITUARIES

AIR COMMODORE J. M. N. PIKE

Air Commodore J. M. N. Pike, CB, DSO, DFC, wartime bomber and Coastal Command pilot, died on March 23 aged 83. He was born on February 8, 1916.

IN A wartime career during which he flew 189 operational *sorties*, Jimmie Pike was airborne almost from first to last. His war took *him* from North Sea reconnaissance to the Ethiopian campaign, back to Britain to try *to* counter the threat from the battlecruisers *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* and south again to protect Malta convoys, before he was finally posted to the Azores where he flew antisubmarine sorties *during the Battle of the* Atlantic. The aircraft he flew ranged from Sunderland reconnaissance flying boats through ground attack Beaufighters to Flying Fortresses.

James Maitland Nicholson *Pike was educated at Stowe* and then taught for a year at a preparatory school before going to Cranwell, where he won both the Sword of Honour and the King's Medal. At the outbreak of war he was in Coastal Command, patrolling the North Sea in Ansons, but *by the* autumn of 1940 he found himself flying Blenheim bombers *in* support of British forces grappling with the Italians in British Somaliland.

In February 1941 he had a close shave when, after destroying *a fighter and three* bombers on the ground in two low-level attacks on an airfield in Ethiopia, he was assailed by a fighter which had survived his first bombing run and taken off *in pursuit. His* aircraft was severely damaged by the fighter's machineguns, but he managed to limp back to his base at Aden on one engine *and make* a belly-landing, without injury to his crew. For this he won his DFC.

Back in England, he was appointed a flight commander *in* 236 (Beaufighter) Squadron. One of his tasks was reconnaissance of Brest harbour, where the German battlecruisers *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* were *sheltering under* heavy flak defences. When he returned to base with a detailed account of the disposition of the ships and harbour defences *he was rebuked for not* having attacked a flak ship which had opened fire on him. Pike protested that he had been sent to bring back intelligence, not to risk his aircraft and crew in duels with heavily armed opponents.



Nevertheless, to oblige the fiery *spirit of his armchair* superiors, on a second visit to Brest he did take on the flak ship, raking it with his four 20mm *cannon* but getting badly shot up himself in the process — only to be rebuked by another *senior* officer for needlessly risking his aircraft.

In *Malta in 1942*, Pike was engaged in protecting convoys and attacking German shipping. He also led a series of devastating attacks on the Italian Air Force on the ground at its bases in Sardinia. *On one occasion he led* a four-aircraft section which destroyed 30 enemy planes in a single sortie. This earned him the DSO. He ended the *war in command of 220 Squadron*, flying American B17 Flying Fortresses on antisubmarine patrols from bases made available by the Portuguese in the Azores. *He* was mentioned in dispatches three times.

Among *his postwar* appointments was a period as commanding officer of RAF Kuala Lumpur at the time of the communist insurrection in Malaya. This won him a fourth mention in dispatches. *He went on to be one of the* two directors of intelligence at the Ministry of Defence and then Director of Security (RAF) in 1964.

After retiring from the RAF in 1969 he joined Naval Intelligence, *where he worked for* nine years. Pike was a keen *yachtsman* and a fine game shot and fisherman.

His marriage in 1942 to Betty Dell was dissolved. In 1955 he married Paula Hellard, who died in 1971. He married, thirdly, Dorothy *Dawson, who died in 1994. He* is *survived* by a daughter of his first marriage and by a son of his second.

PROFESSOR DAVID DAUBE

Professor David Daube, biblical and legal scholar, died on February 24 aged 90. He was born on February 8, 1909.

DAVID DAUBE'S 65th birthday was honoured by three *Festschrifts, respectively* by Roman lawyers, Jewish and Oriental lawyers, and New Testament scholars, reflecting the wide scope of his work.

David Daube was born in Freiburg im Breisgau in Germany, *where he went to school* and at university took up the *study of* legal *history*. He came to England as a Jewish refugee and obtained a position at Cambridge, where in 1935 he was elected a fellow of Gonville and Caius College. During the war he served on committees working for the evacuation of schools and *hospitals, and with the return* of peace, he became a university lecturer in Roman law.

Always interested in biblical studies, he was attracted by the Cambridge tradition of co-operation between Jews and Christians in the study of Christian origins. His contri*butions to the New Testament* seminar run by Professor C. H. Dodd were erudite, subtle and illuminating, as time and again he persuasively questioned old assumptions. In 1947 he published his *Studies in Biblical Law*.

In 1951 he became the first Professor of Jurisprudence at Aberdeen, where the breadth *of his scholarship, his enthusiasm* and the gaiety of his personality gained him immense popularity. In 1955 he became Regius Professor of Civil Law at Oxford, where he *made* a considerable impact on *undergraduates, his* witty allusions and calculated indiscretions being *somehow* enhanced by his unusual accent.

In 1970 he moved to the School of Law at the University of California at Berkeley, becoming curator of the Robbins Collection in Jewish and Roman Law. In his years there he became a well-loved figure, *and he is remembered by* hundreds as the charming eccentric foreign gentleman who strode alone each dawn and dusk, hands clasped behind him and head down, through two miles of the least gentle streets of San Francisco to and from the Berkeley bus; *who befriended the student* insurgents during the days of *the* Free Speech Movement and then spent hours in the espresso houses talking and playing chess with students or sitting alone scribbling in a dog-eared notebook.

So great was his appeal to the young that *his lectures in* Roman law — a subject that *had long fallen into desuetude* in America — were filled to capacity. And so immediate was his warmth to all that admiring waiters and waitresses periodically fêted him with parties of ice-cream and sweets. *During* these turbulent years in Berkeley, he *turned to themes of contemporary* import, as in *Civil Disobedience in Antiquity* (1972) and his articles on such subjects as "Biblical Landmarks in the Struggle for Women's Rights".

His output was enormous, but sadly dispersed through periodicals and Festschrifts. *Invitations to lecture on biblical* studies, however, made him organise his material more effectively in, for instance, *The New Testament and Rabbinic Judaism* (1956). He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1957.

He is survived by his second *wife, Helen Smelser, whom he* married in 1986, and by three sons from an earlier marriage.

CONRAD DIXON

Conrad Dixon, policeman, died on April 13 aged 72. He was born on January 27, 1927.

One of the most colourful characters in the intelligence world, Conrad Dixon pioneered special operations intended to frustrate the threat from subversive and terrorist organisations. As Detective *Chief Superintendent* Dixon, he was founder and leader of the so-called "Scruffy Squad", which was active against anti-state elements in *the 1960s and 1970s*.

Conrad Hepworth Dixon was born into an Army family and educated at Bishop Wordsworth's School, Salisbury, and at St Peter's Hall, Oxford. He joined the Royal Marines at *the end of the war and was* commissioned. On demobilisation he took a job with a football pools company, but a bizarre sequence of events brought him into the Metropolitan Police.

He received a letter out of the blue saying that under the postwar Control of Engagement Order he was to leave the gambling industry forthwith and report to the Labour Exchange for more useful employment. There a dour clerk gave him two alternatives: the mines or the police. Joining the Metropolitan Police looked the lesser evil, although at the time policing was an ill-paid, poorly regarded job, mainly for the strong and not-too-bright.

A fortnight later, at an office in Beak Street, Dixon was given a certificate of exemption from all educational tests, and ushered naked into a small room. A man in a white coat came and stared at his lower half, examined his feet, and went wordlessly away. *Shortly afterwards* Dixon was transferred to Special Branch.

There he specialised in anarchists, Trotskyites and anarcho-syndicalists. His moment came in 1968 when, after unrest in Paris and amid mounting international pro*tests about the* Vietnam War, there were fears that London was to be the next focus of discontent. Dixon was sent for and asked what he would need to gather top-grade information about the would-be revolutionaries. "Twenty men," he replied, "half a million pounds and a free hand."



Conrad Dixon: seadog and undercover policeman

Officers from the Scruffy Squad were *moulded* and shaped into a variety of con*vincing revolutionary guises*, with the appropriate political knowledge, and infiltrated into local groups. Dixon led from the front, and when the London School of Economics was occupied by revolting students, he was first up the steps and — in text-book style — *promptly took charge of the* telephone exchange so as to control communication with the press.

On the day of the big demonstration in October 1968, he advised that thin lines of police invited a charge, whereas grouping in side *streets meant that any* attack on the police would involve a departure from the route of the march to Grosvenor Square. This policy worked, and with confrontation reduced there was a gradual loss of enthusiasm. A thousand people skirmished with the police at the American Embassy, but most of the putative anarchists ate their sandwiches in Hyde Park and went home by bus.

Dixon's skills were next called upon in Wales, where the Free Wales Army was setting off minor explosions and was reported to be taking lessons from the IRA. The separatists were soon alarmed by the penetration of their groupuscles, and even produced a poster about the danger, which appeared on a host of telegraph poles. It showed a listening figure at a mountain crossroads, with the caption "Dixon's Secret Police in Wales". Before long the principal bomb-maker and his assistant were arrested, and the movement collapsed.

Despite his part in suppressing it, however, Dixon understood the cause of the Welsh *discontent*. It was due, he said, to neglect of the Principality, where it was widely believed that the Aberfan disaster would never have happened had the coal tip been on the outskirts of Highgate.

Back in London, Dixon headed the intelligence unit that investigated the Angry Brigade — a group of mainly middle-class terrorists who were planting bombs and preaching an anti-capitalist creed. Dixon identified two weakness: they lived in communes, with considerable contact with other revolutionaries, and they financed their activities by cheque and credit-card fraud.

He was present at an East End commune when a battered German-registered car pulled up outside and a nervous girl got out and ran away. He ordered the seizure of the car and had it taken to pieces. In a sealed compartment were dozens of left-luggage locker keys, and the lockers turned out to contain cheque books and details of the organisation. Convictions followed.

In 1973, Dixon was strongly urged to "go straight" by training to be a Chief Constable at Bramshill Police College, but he was not prepared to sit behind a desk and so left the service to work as a writer and academic.

He took a degree at Exeter University, followed by a doctorate on the working conditions of merchant seamen. He went on to write extensively about the work of lascars and engineers, crimps and naval officers, and often appeared at maritime history conferences.

A keen sailor, he spent three months every year cruising the coasts of Europe in a much-cherished ketch. He also wrote a dozen books for yachtsmen. The first of them remained in print for 30 years, while the last explained the mysteries of the electronic Global Positioning System.

He is survived by his wife, *Winifred, and by their son and* three daughters.

SIR ROSS BELCH

Sir Ross Belch, CBE, industrialist, died on March 26 aged 78. He was born on December 13, 1920.

FOR more than 40 years Ross Belch was at the centre of Scottish shipbuilding, ever ready to defend Britain's interests in a period which saw the virtual collapse of the domestic industry. He was one of the last great figures of shipbuilding on the Clyde.

Alexander Ross Belch was born in London, where his father was secretary of the Shipbuilding Employers Federation. His first visit to a shipyard was in 1934 to witness the launch of the *Queen Mary* from John Brown's yard at Clydebank. Belch was sent to board at Morrison's Academy, and proceeded to study naval architecture at Glasgow University, where he took a first.

He began his career in 1938 as an apprentice in the Fairfield yard at Govan, where he soon became known as an innovator both in shipbuilding methods and in industrial relations, a traditionally prickly thicket, where his diplomacy was a great asset.

He rose to be managing director first of Lithgows in Port Glasgow and later of the Scott Lithgow Group in Greenock, and was valued not least for his salesmanship. He tirelessly sought out new orders, even when there was a dearth of work in yards all over Europe. By 1964 he was warning of the increasing *threat from Japanese shipbuilders*, conceding "If we paid out nothing in wages at Lithgows then we might just about beat the Japanese price level." Nevertheless, when other British companies were *struggling to stay afloat*, he managed to bring much-needed contracts to Port Glasgow.

One of his more memorable deals was a multi-million-pound order from the Far East for vessels which were apparently too big for the Port Glasgow facilities. Undeterred, he consulted his technical team and devised a way of *constructing the vessels in two* halves, to be joined when afloat. It was the first time this had been achieved in tidal waters.

As president of the Shipbuilders' and Repairers' *National Association*, Belch represented the industry when the Callaghan Government planned to nationalise it — a move to which he was deeply opposed. When nationalisation came, in 1976, he became part of the committee established to look at how the industry *would function under public* ownership, urging decentralisation and emergency investment. Eventually he joined the board of British Shipbuilders, until 1979.

His proudest achievement was the successful acquisition of Ferguson Shipbuilders *from* Kvaerner. This *small*, specialist yard prospered under his chairmanship, establishing a strong portfolio of clients, including both governments and private companies. Its success led to its being *bought by the Glasgow* company Holland House in 1995.

Belch was chairman of Irvine Development Corporation for five years until his retirement in 1990, and held a similar post with various shipping companies, as well as establishing two of his own: *Altnacraig Shipping and* Altnamara Shipping. He was also associated with the Norwegian *merchant* shipping group Jebsens, acting as chairman of its travel subsidiary.

He was appointed CBE in *1972 and knighted in 1991 for* services to Scottish industry. Ross Belch was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and of the Royal Institution of Naval Architects, and helped to establish the Scottish Maritime Museum at Irvine.

Ross Belch's first wife, Jan, *died in 1988*. They had four daughters, who all survive him, as does his second wife, Dorothy.

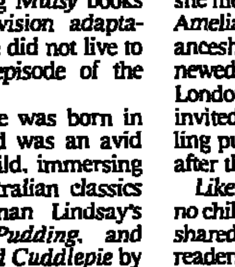
WENDY BOASE

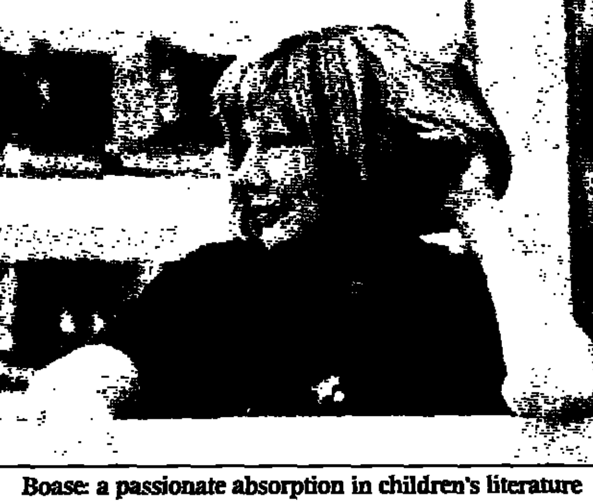
Wendy Boase, publisher, *died of cancer on March 15* aged 54. She was born on October 14, 1944.

WENDY BOASE was among the most gifted and respected children's book editors of her generation. With *Sebastian* Walker as chairman, she and *the art director* Amelia Edwards helped to set up the children's book publishers Walker Books in 1978, and she later became its editorial director. The company is now one of the most successful children's publishers in the world.

Though a board member *since Walker's death in 1991*, Boase continued to be an assiduous hands-on editor. In this capacity she tackled a *wide range of projects* — from board and novelty books for young children to teenage novels — and was proud that she could not be "departmentalised". She had a particular fervour for the Walker fiction *list, which she had built up* from scratch over the past *decade*, with some notable successes.

There were two of which she was especially proud: *Why Weeps the Brogan?* by Hugh Scott and *MapHead* by Lesley Howarth were discovered *among the pile of unsolicited* manuscripts by the editor and, under her guidance, became major prizewinners — as, more recently, did Henrietta Branford's *Fire Bed and Bone*. She played a vital role, too, in developing Lucy Cousins's bestselling *Maisy* books and their *television* adaptation. Sadly, she did not live to see the first episode of the series.





Boase: a passionate absorption in children's literature

Wendy Boase was born in Melbourne and was an avid reader as a child, immersing herself in Australian classics such as Norman Lindsay's *The Magic Pudding*, and *Snugglepot and Cuddlepie* by May Gibbs.

She read Anglo-Saxon and Middle English at Sydney University, after which she taught for some years in a *private girls' school before* deciding to travel to Europe.

She arrived in Britain in 1968, and after teaching and travelling she settled in London, taking a job as a croupier. Her first publishing position *was as a secretary at Reader's Digest*, where she stayed for six years, mostly as a researcher. She then moved to Marshall Cavendish, where she met Sebastian Walker and *Amelia Edwards, an acquaint*anceship that was to be renewed some years later in a London pub, where she was invited to join Walker's fledgeling publishing house "to look after the words".

Like the other two, Boase had no children of her own, but she *shared* their belief that young readers deserved better than much of what was being offered. The challenge was to produce books of outstanding all-round quality, in content, design and production. From *its beginnings* in the spare bedroom of Walker's Islington house, the company grew to become a worldwide publishing force, with sister companies in America and Australia, and a turnover of more than £30 *million. Boase's contribution to* this success story was incalculable.

Boase had an obsessive eye for detail. *She could be irascible* and impatient but usually *only in response to sloppiness* or inaccuracy, which she abhorred. Though she demanded high standards — in herself as much as in others — she was a considerate and generous employer, attentive to the *welfare of those who worked* for her, particularly young and junior staff, many of whom benefited from her counsel over the years.

With authors she was equally diligent and thoughtful: it was important to her to have an author's confidence, and to win it she was willing to go to great lengths.

It was not unusual for her to drive hundreds of miles to talk through a manuscript with an author. As an Australian, she once remarked, she had no *problem with distances* and besides, she drove very fast.

Wendy Boase is survived by her husband, John Vigurs.

PERSONAL COLUMN

DEATHS

PHILLIPS - Dr. William aged 78 peacefully on April 26th 1999 at Beverley Community Hospital, East Yorkshire. Loving husband of Anne, much loved father and grandfather. Service at Beverley Minster, Friday 30th April at 1 pm, prior to private cremation. Family flowers only please but donations for Hull Macmillan Nurse Appeal, Kingston General Hospital, Beverley Road, Hull, would be appreciated.

ROGERS - Joan Marian, aged 79, died peacefully in her sleep in the early morning of Sunday 25th April. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium at 3.15 pm on Friday 30th April.

SCOTT - Charlotte Kathleen of Henley-on-Thames. Very much loved mother of Richard, Lindy and Susie; mother-in-law of Trudy, Rocky and Bill; unique grandmother of Joanna, Emily, Alex, Phoebe, Katharine, Charlotte, Beth, Florence, Thomas and Jamie; *soulmate of Hamish. Died* peacefully on the night of April 25th, aged 79. Funeral at All Saints, Bisham at 2.30 pm Thursday April 29th, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu please to The Samaritans c/o Sawyer Funeral Service, West Street, Marlow, Bucks. (01628 483331).

SMYTHE - Eileen on April 21st 1999. Funeral Service at St Joseph's Church, New Malden, Friday April 30th at 10 am, followed by interment at North Sheen Cemetery at 12 noon. Donations only to Royal Air Force Association c/o F.W. Paine, 28 Central Road, Worcester Park, KT4 8HZ, tel: (0181)

STUART-MONTEITH - Helen (Janet) passed away at home on April 26th 1999. Sadly missed by Heather, Ian and David. Funeral Service at Woking Crematorium on Friday April 30th at 10.00am. No flowers, but donations if desired to 'Woking Hospice' c/o Woking Funeral Service, 119-121 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 1LR. Tel (01483) 772266.

TWOBY - Rita, peacefully 21st April. Greatly loved and missed by *her* extensive fan club. Funeral 3.15pm, 10th May, Reading Crematorium. No flowers please. Donations, Amnesty International.

TYLDESLEY - On April 24th *1999 suddenly* at St Peters Hospital, Chertsey, Reginald (Reggie). Much *loved* brother of Kenneth. Will be sadly missed by family and friends. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Horsell, Woking, on Wednesday May 5th at 1.45pm followed by Cremation. All enquiries to Woking Funeral Service, 119-121 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 1LR. Tel 01483-772266.

WIGGIN - Maggie, on April 26, died peacefully *after a* short illness. Private Funeral Service. *Thanksgiving* Service at Ashford Hill, Nr. Newbury at 2.30pm Friday 14 May.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BISHOP - Sir George Bishop. A reception in memory of the late Sir George Bishop will be held at The Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR on Thursday 27th May 1999 from 3.00pm to 5.30pm. Anyone wishing to make a donation in his memory to encourage travel and exploration by young people should send a cheque payable to The Royal Geographical Society at the above address, marking the envelope "George Bishop Fund".

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

DEAR - Dennis Mansfield. Many happy memories of a greatly loved husband and father, from Peggy, Geoffrey and Anne.

TAYLOR - Peter Murray died 28th April 1997. Deeply loved, sadly missed. Jacqueline.

WANTED

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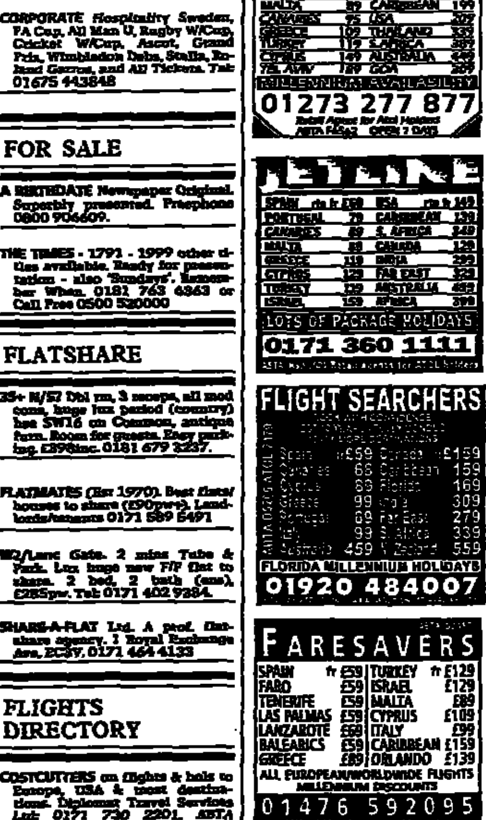
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MR. STANLEY'S RETURN

ON THIS DAY

April 28, 1890

There was more to H.M. Stanley (1841-1904), MP 1895-1900, than the immortal phrase "Dr Livingstone I presume". He was an outstanding explorer; he played a major role in establishing the Congo Free State and in founding British East Africa.

THE most indefatigable and the most fortunate explorer of modern times is amongst us again, and has been received in a thoroughly characteristic fashion by *his* fellow countrymen. During his sojourn on the Continent Mr. Stanley has been the guest of Kings, and has been the centre of many a brilliant assembly — he is now a guest at Sandringham: but it may well be questioned whether he has been wel*comed anywhere with more generous* enthusiasm than that which was shown on Saturday, at Dover and at Victoria, by two huge crowds.

Mr Stanley, who remained invisible until the last moment, received an address from the Mayor and Corporation of Dover. . . *Far more interesting* than the address was the sight of the great explorer himself as he stood bareheaded upon the bridge of the vessel. Innumerable portraits have rendered familiar his face and figure. It only remains to be said that the anxieties and the hardships which he has undergone have left their traces upon him. He has aged greatly, and his hair and moustache are quite white. He *looked very tired* . . .

The special train from Dover was expected at Victoria at half-past 5 o'clock in the evening, and for nearly an hour before that time, notwithstanding the bad weather, people began to gather about the station-yard in considerable *numbers*, and *different parts of the* route from Belgravia to Stratton Street as well were marked with assemblages waiting for the African explorer and his friends. The train was considerably over its time. At eight minutes to 6 o'clock the special train of saloon carriages *steamed into the station* . . . All attention was given to the second saloon. The traveller quickly descended from this carriage, and loud cheers were raised.

The crowds dispersed and Mr. Stanley had received his welcome. Later in the day he left for Sandringham, where he remained over yesterday. For the rest it is clear that Mr. Stanley is to be the lion of the season. Already the programme of entertainments, of banquets, and of receptions prepared for him *is almost alarmingly* long: but it may well be that when all is over, when his book has been published, and when he begins to take stock of his experiences, he will come to the conclusion that his reception by the people of London has been the greatest compliment which he has ever received.

NEWS

Tories in crisis after sacking

The Tory Party was in "crisis" last night over the leadership's attempt to downgrade Thatcherism after a senior party director was accused of disloyalty and sacked.
Michael Simmonds, the £60,000-a-year director of marketing and membership, was called in at 8.30am by Michael Ancram, the chairman of the party, branded a leaker and told to clear his desk immediately........................ Pages 1, 2

Dando killer 'may have been fixated'

Detectives hunting the gunman who murdered Jill Dando believe that the murderer could have been a man who had fantasized about her and built up a fatal fixation. Police have begun delving into the 38-year-old television presenter's private life, talking to former boyfriends and colleagues for any clues to someone with a grudge........................ Pages 1, 4, 5

More refugee airlifts

More than 150 Kosovo refugess will arrive in Britain tomorrow as the emergency airlift of evacuees is set to become a twice weekly operation. The group of refugees, comprising 18 people needing medical treatment plus about 140 dependents, will land at East Midlands International Airport about noon........................ Pages 1, 14, 15

Julia steals the show

Julia Roberts, the Hollywood superstar, may have been upstaged in the dress stakes by Liz Hurley, the British actress, but it was she who stole the show at the long-awaited premiere of her new film *Notting Hill*........................ Page 1

Students face life

Two college students who stabbed their best friend to death because "he got on their nerves", and then burnt and dismembered his body, last night faced life in jail........................ Page 3

Prostitute support

Prostitution is no greater a sin than adultery and more should be done to minister to prostitutes and those who use them, a church report says........................ Page 6

Mobile improvements

Engineers at Leeds University have developed a transmitter the size of a cigarette packet that could make planning disputes over mobile phone masts a thing of the past........................ Page 9

Joke judge in dock

The Lord Chancellor is investigating reports of an after-dinner speech in which a judge was heckled and jeered after cracking a joke against political correctness........................ Page 11

Charles teams up

A former Harlem Globetrotters player, who bought the basketball team after hanging up his training shoes, joined the Prince of Wales in encouraging businesses to do more to help deprived communities........................ Page 11

Clinton acts on guns

Spurred by the Denver school massacre, President Clinton proposed bringing criminalcharges against parents of children who commit gun crimes. The idea was among several gun control measures Mr Clinton sent to Congress, where their chances of becoming law appeared bleak........................ Page 13

Paris library fiasco

French academics were in despair as the country's showcase National Library plumbed new depths of absurdity, and the parliament set up an inquiry into the £830 million project........................ Page 16

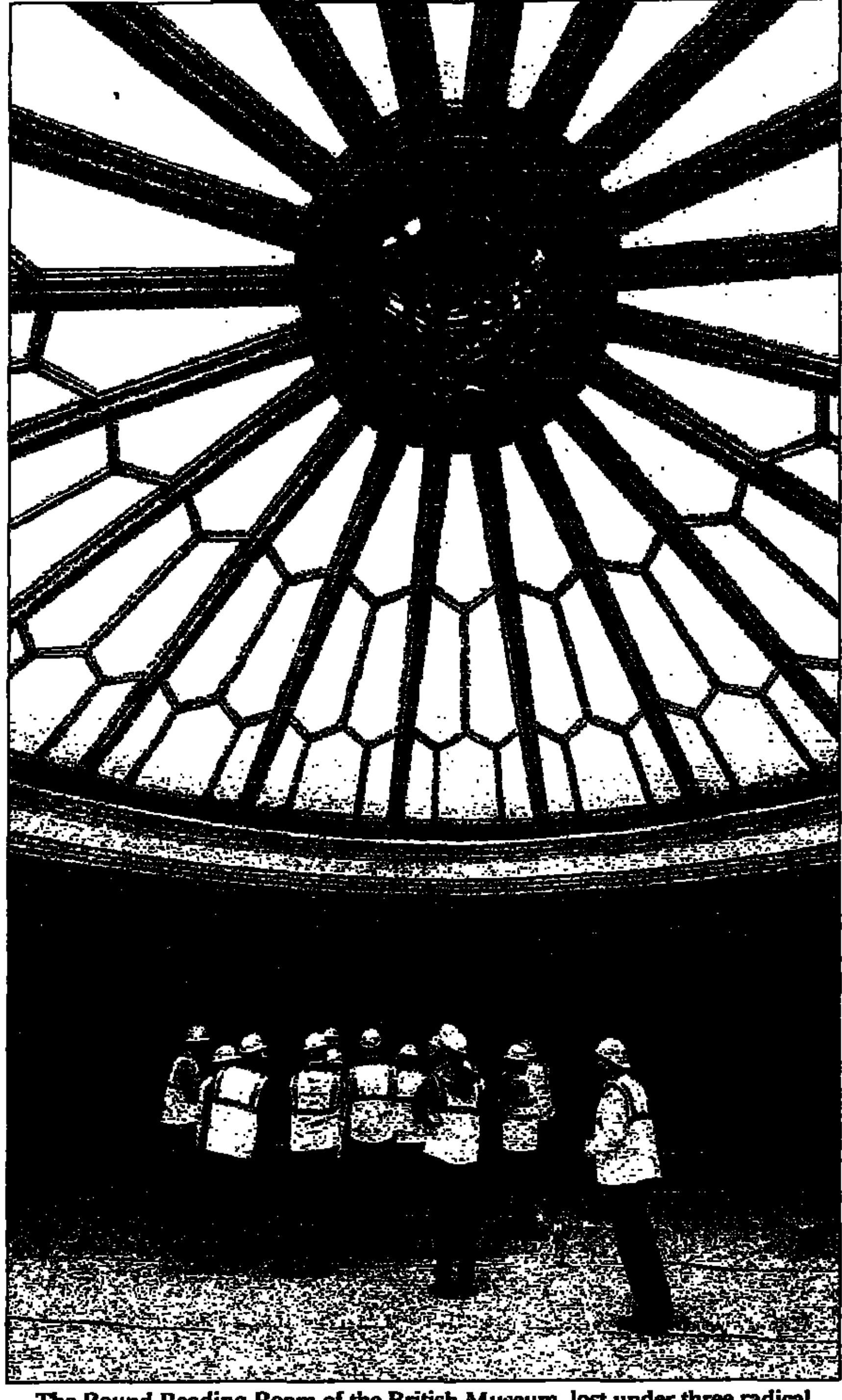
'Too sick' to kill

A former member of the Gestapo told a court he "felt sick" when ordered to join a Nazi death camp execution squad and thus avoided firing a single shot in a mass extermination campaign........................ Page 16

Bird record for happy wanderer

After a lifetime as a hatters' merchant, Harry Howard decided there must be more to life than making braid bows for trilbies. So he kissed goodbye to his wife and set off around the world to watch birds. A year later, the 59-year-old can claim a world record for bird-spotting, having seen a representative of every one of the 202 bird "families" in less than a year. Page 3

ROY RILEY



The Round Reading Room of the British Museum, lost under three radical redecorations since the building first opened in 1857, is being restored to its original glory. The project is expected to be completed by November 2000

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **FILMS**
Jennifer Jason Leigh, right, stars in *eXistenZ*, another David *(Crash)* Cronenberg musing on the blurring of fantasy and reality

■ **BOOKS**
Christopher Hitchens's Washington stories fail to enthuse Peter Preston

BUSINESS

Record: Shares closed at a record high on the back of stock shortages and continued strength on Wall Street... Page 25
Booth goes: Mark Booth announced he was leaving British Sky Broadcasting and will run a new media company set up by News Corporation called e*partners........................ Page 25
Lopes arrested: A former president of the Brazilian Central Bank, Francisco Lopes, was arrested on Monday... Page 25
Markets: The FTSE 100 index rose 90.0 points 6593.6. The pound rose 0.32 cents to $1.6164 but fell 0.14p against the euro to 65.87p. The sterling index fell to 104.1........................ Page 28

SPORT

Football: Steve McManaman has been given a free-ranging role against Hungary in an England team that includes two new caps, Kevin Phillips and Wes Brown........................ Page 48
Cricket: The new media centre at Lord's was opened officially. It was designed by Jan Kaplicky, a Czech refugee, as a debt of gratitude to England........................ Page 48
Snooker: John Higgins made a superb start to his world championship quarter-final against Stephen Lee by winning the opening eight frames........................ Page 41

ARTS

Prunella's Pinter: The West End revival of *The Birthday Party*, with Prunella Scales in the lead role, confirms Pinter's 1958 play as one of the century's classics........................ Page 35
Brush with controversy: A new film about Artemisia Gentileschi has raised feminist hackles by portraying the 17th-century painter as being besotted with the man who raped her........................ Page 36
Cry from Africa: At the Serpentine Gallery the remarkable South African artist William Kentridge offers a deeply pessimistic vision of his homeland........................ Page 37

FEATURES

Adding up: Research proves that animals do have mathematical skills........................ Page 18
George Walden: In the third extract from his memoirs, the former diplomat and politician offers a guide to protocol when travelling with the royals........................ Page 19

THE PAPERS

There are new dangers ahead for India. Historically the Congress Party has had a Nehru or Gandhi leading it. So will it be at the next election, but the difference is that Sonia Gandhi is a foreigner. The fact that the Congress Party could not find a person of Indian origin to lead it and had to fall back on Rajiv Gandhi's widow is sure to be exploited by anti-Congress forces desperate for any straw to cling to.
Hong Kong Standard

HOMES

Boom time: Ireland's housing market is booming — and has been for five years. Is there a lesson there for Britain?........................ Page 39

FOCUS

Net gains: On the 40th anniversary of the Marketing Society, a look at the potential of e-commerce.... Page 32, 33

EASY MONEY

Cashing in: The best ways to improve savings and pension provision; why it pays to buy a used car........ Page 17

RADIO & TV

Preview: Celebrities pay tribute to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. *Leviathan* (BBC2, 7.30pm)
Review: "Was Martin Parr, who made *Thinking of England* for BBC2's *Modern Times*, sniggering at that middle-aged couple at their bed-and-breakfast?" Joe Joseph on the English at play..... Pages 46, 47

OPINION

Crisis of clarity

The Conservatives have suffered a crisis of clarity not for two years but at least seven. Until that ends they are unlikely to recover....... Page 21

A blip on the screen

Draskovic may have hinted at fractures in the Yugoslav leadership, but he has changed direction so many times and with such brazen opportunism that he has little domestic credibility................ Page 21

Only connect

London's new millennium bridge will link times and ideas and communities together............. Page 21

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS

The Prime Minister barely concealed his frustration at his colleagues' refusal to carry war to its logical next stage, to expel Serb forces from Kosovo and repatriate the Kosovans. He is Prometheus chained to the Nato rock, while a defiant Mr Milosevic gnaws at his vitals........................ Page 20

DAVID SELBOURNE

The thesis of "globalisation", a mutant form of the "end-of-history" proposition, is, like its predecessor, nothing but twaddle. It is pure globaloney........................ Page 20

ALAN COREN

You would not believe the new froideur in the Cricklewood streets, crossed as soon as they spot me coming by those who would once smile, and pause, and gossip. Dogs are tugged away from my pat children folded into their mothers skirts........................ Page 20

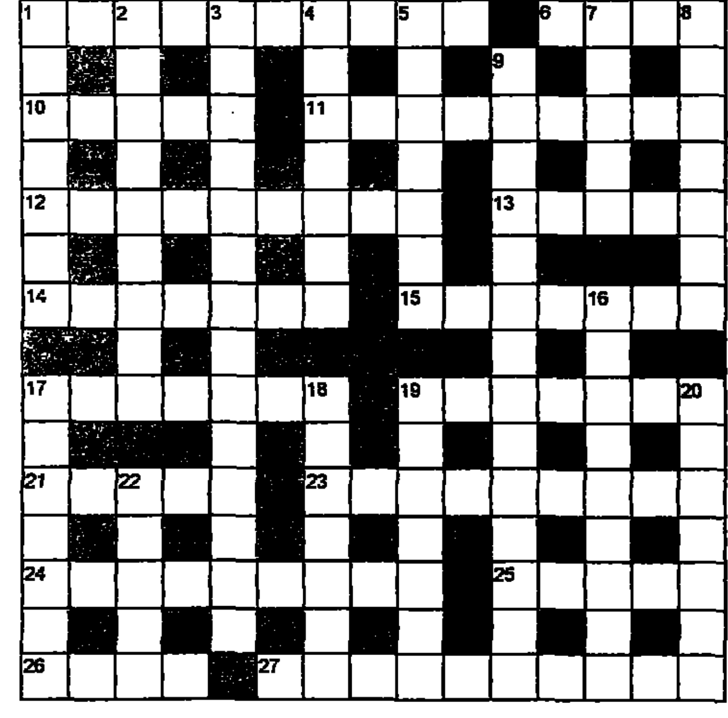
OBITUARIES

Conrad Dixon, policeman; **Sir Ross Belch**, industrialist; **Wendy Boase**, publisher; **Professor David Daube**, biblical scholar; **Air Commodore J.M.N. Pike**, wartime bomber pilot............. Page 23

LETTERS

Legal aid reform: divorce and older women; reporting of Jill Dando's murder; violent video games; local government reform............ Page 21

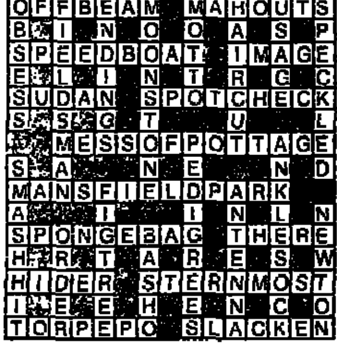
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,089



ACROSS
1 Unfrocked monk is not behaving properly (3.2.5).
6 *In France, we exhibit common* sense (4).
10 Lay back, say, in midst of conflict (5).
11 Opening of film just unpleasant (9).
12 Repay insult in letter from *abroad one* afterwards sent back (9).
13 Store licensed to provide this souvenir (5).
14 Take up horn and set out (7).
15 Allowing little time for consideration (7).
17 Here and now (7).
19 Diaphragm, one doctor inserted in pet (7).
21 Emotional outburst, with love and exuberant enthusiasm (5).
23 Pound grew unexpectedly – it might have produced a boom (9).
24 *Old storage area's not full yet* (5.4).
25 They can set you back, blue about marks (5).
26 Disposal of part of Manchester (4).
27 Show disapproval about invading country contrary to legislation (7.3).

DOWN
1 Where nurses are posted to the front (7).
2 For an acrobat, one's highly strung (9).
3 *Universal? Precisely!* (3.3.3.5).
4 Give up the burden (7).
5 English side needs a man of quality, and it's pressing (7).
7 Some lights, for instance, turned out – not quite every one (5).
8 Petition is, thus, *within the law* (7).
9 In a way, fortress we associated with Hood (8.6).
16 I'd laugh hysterically over lines in ceremonial building (9).
17 Air transport using one horsepower (7).
18 A tower of strength, in the main (7).
19 Chap attached to university, an American one, for free (7).
20 Warning observed, as expected (7).
22 Shed a little light (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 21,088



Times Two Crossword, page 48

AA INFORMATION



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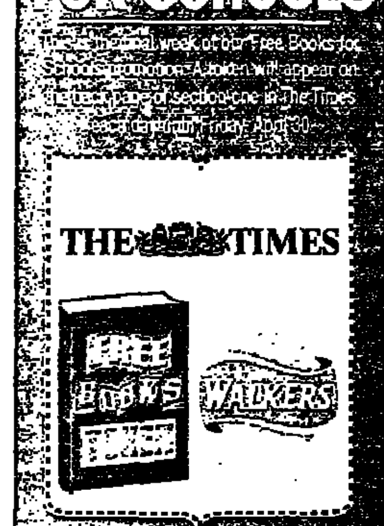
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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
5.39 am	8.18 pm
Moon sets: 5.19 am	Moon rises: 5.58 pm

Full moon April 30

London 8.18 pm to 5.37 am
Bristol 8.28 pm to 5.47 am
Edinburgh 8.45 pm to 5.35 am
Manchester 8.33 pm to 5.40 am
Penzance 8.36 pm to 6.03 am



FORECAST

☐ **General:** England, Wales and Northern Ireland will all have a mostly fine day with spells of sunshine. Some eastern coasts of England might stay misty. Scotland will become cloudier and there will be some light rain in the far north and across the Northern Isles. Southern parts of Scotland will see some sunshine.

☐ **London, SE, Cent S, SW, E Midlands:** mist or fog patches lifting to leave spells of sunshine. Breezy, especially at coasts. Moderate to fresh northeasterly wind. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **Channel Islands:** windy but dry with occasional sunshine. Fresh northeast winds. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **E Anglia, E, Cent N, NE England:** cool and misty near some coasts but sunny spells elsewhere. Moderate northeasterly winds. Max 17C (63F) but cooler at coasts.

☐ **W Midlands, S&N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man:** any fog patches lifting to leave some sunshine. Light or moderate northeasterly winds. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland:** bright for a while in many places but cloud increasing to bring rain to northern areas. Light northwest winds, backing moderate westerly. Max 14C (57F).

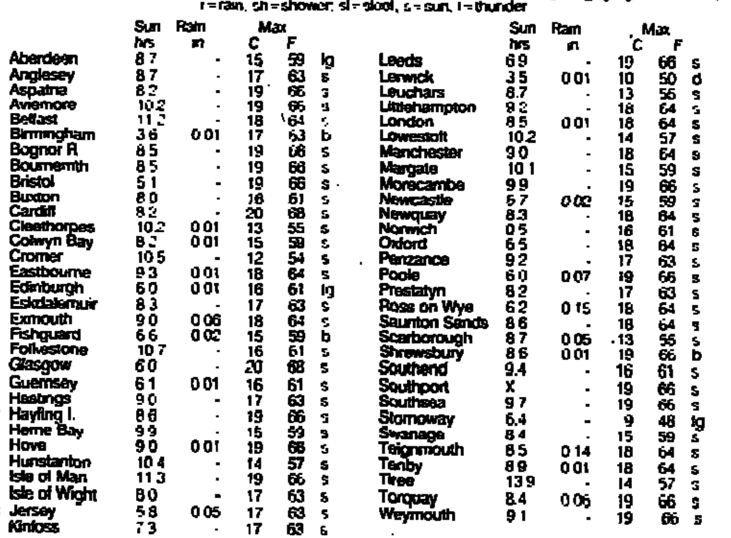
☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** dry with some sunshine after early fog patches, but cloudier later. Light winds, *mainly northwessterly. Max 17C (63F).*

☐ **N Ireland:** after early fog patches it will be dry with long sunny spells. Light winds, mostly north to northeasterly. Max temp 17C (63F).

☐ **Republic of Ireland:** some early mist, then bright with sunny periods. Wind light, easterly. Max 19C (66F).

☐ **Outlook:** southern areas will have further sunny breaks but a few showers overnight, clearing during Friday when much of England and Wales will be bright. Scotland, northern England and Northern Ireland will turn wet for a time tomorrow.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY



24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright, c=cloud, d=drizzle, ds=dust storm, du=dull, f=fair, fg=fog, g=gales, h=hail, r=rain, sh=shower, sl=sleet, s=sun, t=thunder

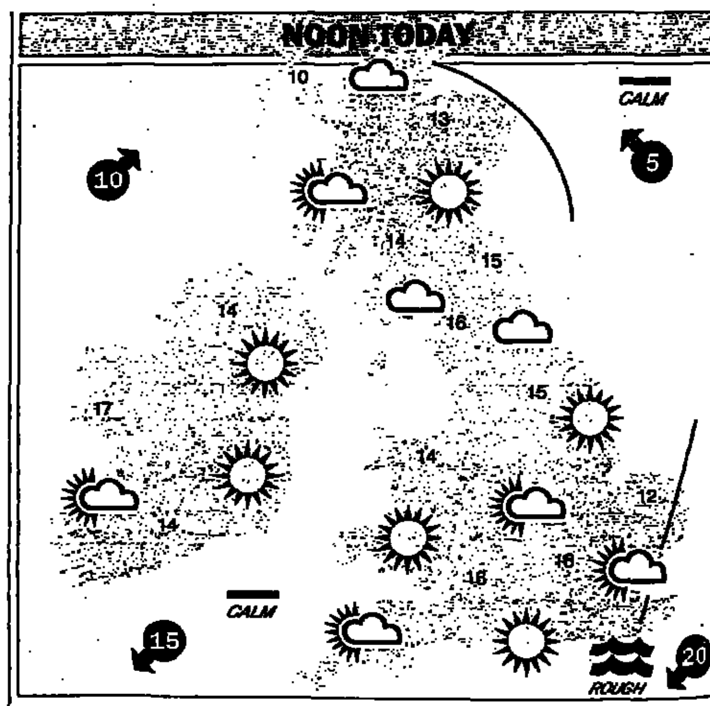
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	8.7	-	15	59	fg	Leeds	6.9	-	19	66	s
Anglesey	8.7	-	17	63	s	Lerwick	3.5	0.01	10	50	d
Aspatria	8.2	-	19	66	s	Leuchars	8.7	-	13	55	s
Aviemore	10.2	-	19	66	s	Littlehampton	9.2	-	18	64	s
Belfast	11.2	-	18	64	s	London	8.5	0.01	18	64	s
Birmingham	3.6	0.01	17	63	b	Lowestoft	10.2	-	14	57	s
Bognor R	8.5	-	19	66	s	Manchester	9.0	-	18	64	s
Bournemth	8.5	-	19	66	s	Margate	10.1	-	15	59	s
Bristol	5.1	-	19	66	s	Morecambe	9.9	-	19	66	s
Buxton	8.0	-	16	61	s	Newcastle	5.7	0.02	15	59	s
Cardiff	8.2	-	20	68	s	Newquay	8.3	-	18	64	s
Cleethorpes	10.2	0.01	13	55	s	Norwich	0.5	-	16	61	s
Colwyn Bay	8.2	0.01	15	59	s	Oxford	6.5	-	18	64	s
Cromer	10.5	-	12	54	s	Penzance	9.2	-	17	63	s
Eastbourne	9.3	0.01	18	64	s	Poole	6.0	0.07	19	66	s
Edinburgh	6.0	0.01	16	61	fg	Prestatyn	8.2	-	17	63	s
Eskdalemuir	8.3	-	17	63	s	Ross on Wye	6.2	0.15	18	64	s
Exmouth	9.0	0.06	18	64	s	Saunton Sands	8.6	-	18	64	s
Fishguard	6.6	0.02	15	59	b	Scarborough	8.7	0.05	13	55	s
Folkestone	10.7	-	16	61	s	Shrewsbury	8.6	0.01	19	66	b
Glasgow	6.0	-	20	68	s	Southend	9.4	-	16	61	s
Guernsey	6.1	0.01	16	61	s	Southport	X	-	19	66	s
Hastings	9.0	-	17	63	s	Southsea	9.7	-	19	66	s
Hayling I.	8.6	-	19	66	s	Stornoway	6.4	-	9	48	fg
Herne Bay	9.9	-	15	59	s	Swanage	8.4	-	15	59	s
Hove	9.0	0.01	19	66	s	Teignmouth	8.5	0.14	18	64	s
Hunstanton	10.4	-	14	57	s	Tenby	8.9	0.01	18	64	s
Isle of Man	11.3	-	19	66	s	Tiree	13.9	-	14	57	s
Isle of Wight	8.0	-	17	63	s	Torquay	8.4	0.06	19	66	s
Jersey	5.8	0.05	17	63	s	Weymouth	9.1	-	19	66	s
Kinloss	7.3	-	17	63	s						

ABROAD

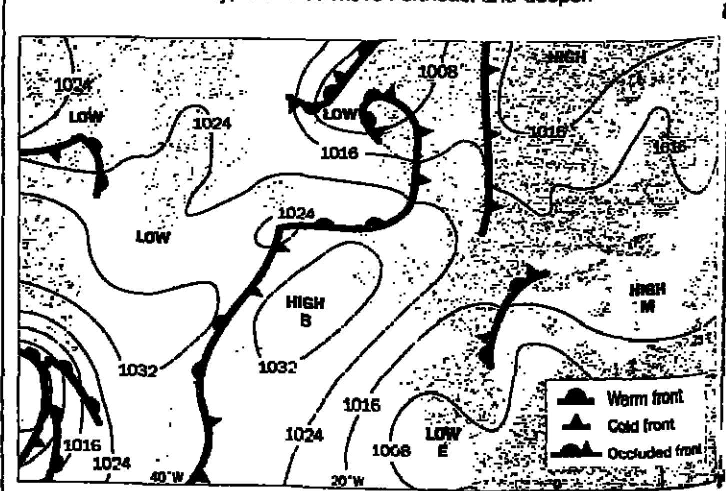
	C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	18	64	s	C'phagn	15	59	f	Majorca	23	73	s	Salzburg	17	63	s
Akrotiri	28	82	s	Corfu	17	63	f	Malaga	21	70	f	S Frisco	13	55	s
Alex'dria	25	77	s	Dublin	9	48	r	Malta	22	72	s	Santiago	19	66	s
Algiers	24	75	s	Dubrovnik	16	61	s	Melbourne	12	54	c	S Paulo	X		
Amst'dm	19	66	s	Faro	18	64	f	Mexico C	24	75	s	Seoul	26	79	s
Athens	21	70	s	Florence	18	64	f	Miami	29	84	s	Singapore	32	90	f
Bahrain	36	97	s	Frankfurt	19	66	f	Milan	20	68	s	Stockholm	16	61	f
Bangkok	34	93	f	Funchal	21	70	s	Montreal	11	52	f	Strasb'rg	20	68	f
Barbados	29	64	f	Geneva	14	57	f	Moscow	20	68	s	Sydney	21	70	s
Barcelona	16	61	f	Gibraltar	19	66	f	Munich	17	63	s	Tangier	18	64	f
Beijing	11	52	r	Helsinki	14	57	s	Nairobi	22	72	c	Tel Aviv	25	77	s
Beirut	21	70	f	Hong K	29	84	s	Naples	17	63	s	Tenerife	23	73	s
Belgrade	11	52	r	Innsbruck	17	63	f	N Delhi	39	102	s	Tokyo	21	70	f
Berlin	15	59	f	Istanbul	20	68	f	N York	22	72	s	Toronto	17	63	s
Bermuda	16	61	f	Jeddah	33	91	s	Nice	16	61	s	Tunis	27	81	s
Biarritz	17	63	f	Jo'burg	19	66	f	Oslo	13	55	c	Valencia	23	73	f
Bordeaux	17	63	f	L Palmas	23	73	s	Paris	17	63	f	Vanc'ver	8	46	f
Brussels	19	66	f	Le Touquet	18	64	f	Perth	17	63	s	Venice	19	66	s
Budapest	17	63	f	Lisbon	15	59	c	Prague	13	55	c	Vienna	17	63	f
B Aires	18	64	c	Locarno	13	55	r	Reykjavik	11	52	f	Warsaw	17	63	f
Cairo	31	88	s	L Angeles	18	64	c	Rhodes	21	70	f	Wash'ton	23	73	f
Cape Tn	26	79	s	Luxembg	17	63	s	Rio de J	22	72	f	Zurich	18	64	s
Chicago	16	61	s	Luxor	36	97	s	Riyadh	41	106	s				
Cologne	20	68	f	Madrid	15	59	c	Rome	17	63	s				

Temperatures at midday local time on Monday. X - not available.

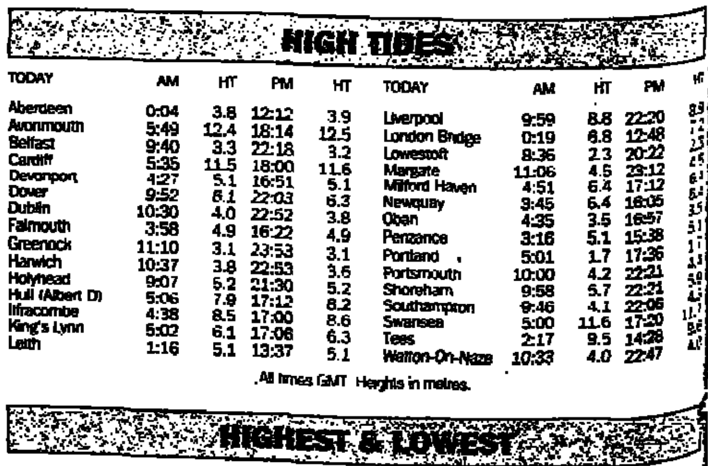
NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: high B will drift southwest and decline; high M will be slow moving with little change; low E will lose its identity; low K will move northeast and deepen



HIGH TIDES



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	0:04	3.8	12:12	3.9	Liverpool	9:59	8.8	22:20	[illegible]
Avonmouth	5:49	12.4	18:14	12.5	London Bridge	0:19	6.8	12:48	[illegible]
Belfast	9:40	3.3	22:18	3.2	Lowestoft	8:36	2.3	20:22	[illegible]
Cardiff	5:35	11.5	18:00	11.6	Margate	11:06	4.5	23:12	[illegible]
Devonport	4:27	5.1	16:51	5.1	Milford Haven	4:51	6.4	17:12	[illegible]
Dover	9:52	6.1	22:03	6.3	Newquay	3:45	6.4	16:05	[illegible]
Dublin	10:30	4.0	22:52	3.8	Oban	4:35	3.5	16:57	[illegible]
Falmouth	3:58	4.9	16:22	4.9	Penzance	3:16	5.1	15:38	[illegible]
Greenock	11:10	3.1	23:53	3.1	Portland	5:01	1.7	17:36	[illegible]
Harwich	10:37	3.8	22:53	3.6	Portsmouth	10:00	4.2	22:21	[illegible]
Holyhead	9:07	5.2	21:30	5.2	Shoreham	9:58	5.7	22:21	[illegible]
Hull (Albert D)	5:06	7.9	17:12	8.2	Southampton	9:46	4.1	22:06	[illegible]
Ilfracombe	4:38	8.5	17:00	8.6	Swansea	5:00	11.6	17:20	[illegible]
King's Lynn	5:02	6.1	17:06	6.3	Tees	2:17	9.5	14:28	[illegible]
Leith	1:16	5.1	13:37	5.1	Walton-On-Naze	10:33	4.0	22:47	[illegible]

All times GMT. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: highest day temp: Dalmally, Argyll And Bute 22C (72F); lowest day max: Fair Isle Between Orkney Shetland And Rosehearty, Aberdeenshire 9C (48F); highest rainfall: Ross-on-Wye Hereford 0.15inchens, Worcester s highest sunshine: Tiree, Inner Hebrides 13.9hours

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Not one for the feminists
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هكذا من الأصل

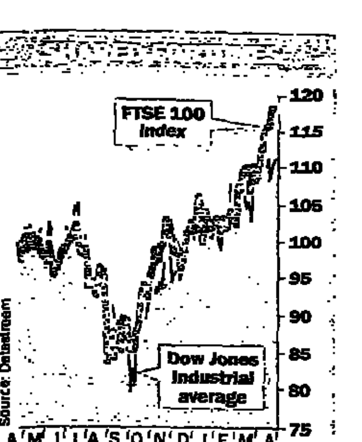
BUSINESS • ARTS • HOMES • SPORT • TELEVISION

THE TIMES 2

Prunella Scales does Pinter
Arts, page 37

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft WEDNESDAY APRIL 28 1999 RK

Wall Street helps UK shares to record high



By Alasdair Murray
Economics Correspondent

THE STOCK MARKET scored its *fifth record close of the month* yesterday buoyed by yet another strong performance on Wall Street.

Shares were also helped by further signs that the UK's manufacturing sector is beginning to turn the corner and an improved trade balance with non-EU countries.

The FTSE 100 index of leading shares closed up 90.0 points at 6,593.6, having earlier reached a *new intra-day peak of 6,635.9.*

The market was helped by an overnight rise in New York with the gains underpinned by a further rapid climb once Wall Street opened trading yesterday.

The Dow Jones industrial average stood up about 80 points by lunchtime in New York after better than expected quarterly results from AT&T, *the telecoms giant.*

In London banks and oil companies continued to fuel the stock market's rise after recent oil price rises and a series of positive banking trading statements. Traders said shares could see fresh highs in the next few days but gave warning that the market is now approaching the traditional *May selling season.*

The trade data, which was also published yesterday, raised new hopes that Britain's export performance may be beginning to improve. The non-EU trade gap fell to £986 million in March compared with £1.58 billion in February and well below City expectations of a £1.7 billion rise.

Although part of the improvement was due to a jump in exports of erratics, there was also a sharp rise in exports to the US and some signs that the export position in the Far East may be stabilising.

However, the overall trade gap in February decreased only marginally from January's record £2.73 billion *deficit to £2.61 billion,* leaving analysts saying that it was too early to conclude Britain's underlying trade position was on an improving trend.

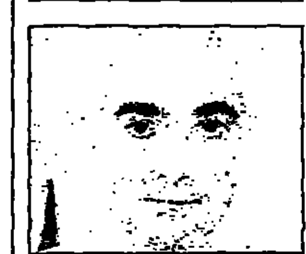
There was particular concern that the trade deficit with EU countries in February ballooned to its largest levels since July 1990. Over the three months to February exports to EU countries fell by 3 per cent while *those to non-EU countries* were down 4 per cent on a quarterly comparison. Analysts said that with the pound maintaining high levels against the euro, a deterioration in the EU trade balance could hamper an improvement in the overall trade balance.

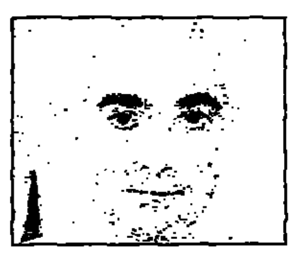
The separate Confederation of *British Industry April industrial* trends survey offered fresh evidence *of a gentle recovery in the sector* although manufacturers are shedding jobs at the fastest rate for six years. Confidence reached its highest levels in more than a year while order books declined at their slowest rate since last July. The export position also showed signs of improving although *confidence in export orders* over the next four months has slipped back again because of the latest rise in the pound.

Inflationary pressures remain very weak with domestic prices again declining and unit costs falling at their fastest ever rate.

The CBI said subdued inflation in *the sector suggested* that the Bank of England could cut rates by a further *quarter point to help to underpin* the economic recovery.

Business Today





Pensions time bomb
Labour could end up paying for the rest of Europe

page 29

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	6593.6	(+90.0)
Yield	2.09%	
FTSE All Share	3039.21	(+35.49)
Nikkei	16957.27	(+38.76)
New York:		
Dow Jones	10777.58	(+58.99)*
S&P Composite	1359.40	(-0.64)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	4¾%*	(4¾%)
Long bond	95⅞*	(95⅞)
Yield	5.55%*	(5.57%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	5¼%	(5¼%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	116.46	(116.46)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6182*	(1.6120)
London:		
$	1.6153	(1.6129)
€	1.5178	(1.5212)
SFr	2.4365	(2.4383)
Yen	194.24	(191.86)
£ Index	104.1	(104.2)

DOLLAR

London:		
€	1.0650*	(1.0590)
SFr	1.5085*	(1.5143)
Yen	120.20*	(119.10)
$ index	108.6	(108.5)

Tokyo close Yen 119.43

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jul)	$15.55	($15.55)

GOLD

London close	$282.15	($281.15)

* denotes midday trading prices

Exchange rates .... Page 26



BSkyB chief quits to head Net venture

By Raymond Snoddy, Media Editor

MARK BOOTH, the chief executive of British Sky Broadcasting, unexpectedly announced *yesterday that he is to leave the satellite broadcaster. He has instead been* enlisted to run a new media company, e*partners, set up by The News Corporation.

The surprise decision comes less than two years after Mr Booth was chosen as the successor to Sam Chisholm and a little more than six months after the successful launch of the SkyDigital service.

Mr Booth's move was triggered by an offer from Microsoft, *the world's largest* software company, to head all its Internet businesses. Mr Booth, who first came to the UK *to run MTV Europe,* was offered share options that could *eventually* be worth $100 million to join Microsoft.

Jerome Seydoux, chairman of BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News Corp, the ultimate parent company of *The Times*, told Mr Booth he could not stand in the way of such an offer.

Hearing of Mr Booth's intention to move, Rupert Murdoch, chairman and chief executive of News Corp began negotiations *to attract Mr Booth* to join News Corp, which has been *looking for ways to increase* its Internet presence in recent months. Yesterday BSkyB said that Mr Murdoch asked for and was given permission by M Seydoux to offer Mr Booth *the newly* created News Corp position.

The new company will have a $300 million capital base, which will be used to invest in new media opportunities, including the Internet, interactive television and wireless communication.

The funding of e*partners is the most significant move by News Corp so far in the area of the Internet and e-commerce. So far, electronic investments have been largely defensive and designed to protect existing mass media products.

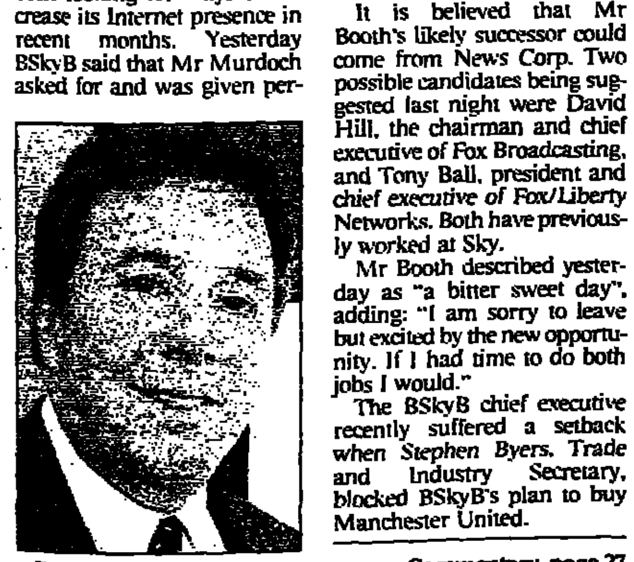
Mr Booth, it is believed, will hold a 10 per cent stake in *e*partners, which will have its* headquarters in London and *offices on the West Coast* of the US. One strategy of the new company will be to try to link up with US new media companies that have yet to expand outside the US and handle their international operations.

BSkyB said that Mr Booth's successor would come from outside *BSkyB,* which rules out Mr Murdoch's daughter, Elisabeth Murdoch, managing director of BSkyB Net*works. It would also rule out* David Chance, Mr Chisholm's *former deputy,* who is still a non-executive director of the satellite broadcaster.

It is believed that Mr Booth's likely successor could come from News Corp. Two possible candidates being suggested last night were David Hill, the chairman and chief executive of Fox Broadcasting, and Tony Ball, president and chief *executive of Fox/Liberty* Networks. Both have previously worked at Sky.

Mr Booth described yesterday as "a bitter sweet day", adding: "I am sorry to leave but excited by the new opportunity. If I had time to do both jobs I would."

The BSkyB chief executive recently suffered a setback when *Stephen Byers,* Trade and Industry Secretary, blocked BSkyB's plan to buy Manchester United.


Booth: News Corp post

Commentary, page 27

CANAL+

A GAME OF TWO HALVES

NEWS CORPORATION

JUVENTUS Zinadine Zidane — LAZIO Christian Vieri

AC MILAN George Weah — Roma Francesco Totti

INTERMILAN Ronaldo — PARMA Juan Sebastian Veron

NAPOLI Maradona — FIORENTINA Gabriel Batistuta

News Corp takes Italian stake

By Jason Nissé

THE NEWS CORPORATION yesterday gained a *foothold* in the Italian pay-television market and *simultaneously* became embroiled in the battle for Telecom Italia *when it struck a deal* for the media rights of four Serie A *football* clubs.

News Corp has agreed to buy a 35 per cent stake in Stream, the loss-making digital television operator set up by Telecom Italia. Cecchi Gori, the Italian media group, will take an 18 per cent stake while another 12 per cent stake is being sold to *Societa* Diritti Sportivi, a company set up by four top Italian football clubs — Roma, Lazio, Parma and Fiorentina — to market *their media rights.*

The four clubs have also *agreed a deal, said to be worth* more than 1 trillion lire (£340 million), to sell their pay-television broadcasting rights for the next six seasons to Stream.

Olivetti, the computer group, which has *said* it will table a £40 billion bid for Telecom Italia later this month, said the sale of Stream was aimed at obstructing its bid. *Telecom Italia formally* rejected the Olivetti offer last night.

having agreed to merge with Deutsche Telekom *last week.*

The decision by News Corp *and the football clubs to buy* into Stream follows the deal *struck last year* by Telepui, the Italian digital television service owned by Canal Plus, the French media group. It signed up the pay-television rights of some of the leading clubs including Juventus, AC Milan, Internazionale and Napoli for five years, paying about £750 *million.*

No figures were revealed *for the Stream deal yesterday.* However, Telecom has said that up to L2 trillion needs to be *invested in the digital* service to enable it to compete *with Telepui.*

Earlier this year talks between News Corp and Telecom Italia, which would have led to News Corp buying an 80 per cent stake in Stream, broke down after intervention by the Italian Government.

Yesterday's deal, however, appears to have been given the green light by Vicenzo *Vita, Italy's Communications* Under Secretary yesterday.

Business of sport, page 29

Outsider to take chair at the Halifax

By Susan Emmett

SIR DENNIS STEVENSON emerged yesterday as the sur*prise choice as the next chair*man of Halifax, the former building society-turned bank.

Sir Dennis, chairman of media group Pearson, will succeed Jon Foulds, 66, who announced he will retire in July. Sir Dennis is not currently on the Halifax board.

This is the first time the Halifax has recruited a chairman from outside the company. Existing non-executive directors include *Louis Sherwood, Lord* Chadlington and Prue Leith.

Said Mr Foulds: His track record as a doer and a strategic thinker is outstanding and I am happy to leave the Halifax in such capable hands."

A spokesman for the Halifax said: "That he's not Halifax born and bred isn't a problem because the business is changing so fast. It's more relevant that he has experience of a big company."

The retirement of Mr *Foulds is announced just four* months after Mike Blackburn *stood down as chief executive,* removing the two men who led the merger of the Halifax with the Leeds Permanent building society and its subsequent stock market flotation. Sir Dennis is 53.

At yesterday's annual meeting in Harrogate the Halifax confirmed it would go ahead with changes to its share structure despite strong protests from a significant number of *private investors.*

Under plans announced in *February,* the bank will *return* £1.5 billion to 3.6 million shareholders in early *June.* Investors will receive 37 new shares for every 40 old shares and 62p in cash for each share they own on May 28, the last business day before the scheme is introduced.

Halifax shares have risen steeply since the proposals *were made. At the time of the* announcement, the shares *stood at around 780p. Yester*day they fell 6½p to 898p.

Brazil fears resurface with bank scandal

By Gabriella Gamini
in Rio de Janeiro
and Alasdair Murray

BRAZIL'S fragile financial markets were facing a renewed crisis yesterday after the former Governor of the Brazilian Central Bank was arrested after his refusal to testify following allegations of insider dealing.

Francisco Lopes is under investigation over claims that two private banks were tipped off about the Government's plans to devalue the Brazilian currency, *the real, in January.* Salvatore Cacciola — owner of Banco Mar*ka, which has been implicated in the* scandal — has apparently admitted he had a paid informant at the central bank who helped the banks to make huge profits purchasing US dollars at highly favourable rates.

A police raid on Senhor Lopes's home has also turned up documents showing he *had* deposited $1.6 million in an overseas bank account using *someone else's name. Only hours be*fore Senhor Lopes's arrest, Pedro Ma*lan, the Finance Minister,* had declared an official end to the financial crisis, which had threatened to plunge the country into a full-scale recession.

The Brazilian stock market yesterday followed up Monday's 2 per cent slide with further losses. The real also slipped back to 1.72 to the dollar, although it remains well off the record lows set in the weeks immediately af*ter the devaluation.*

Senhor Lopes, sacked after just three weeks as Governor of the Central Bank, was arrested after refusing to testify under oath to the Senate Committee.

Analysts are worried that Senhor Lopes's refusal to testify may be an attempt to hide a more far-reaching corruption scandal involving senior members of the Government.

Egg hatches plan to Net customers

EGG, the *direct banking arm* of Prudential, plans to attract *two million Internet customers* over the next five years, Mike Harris, chief executive, said yesterday (Paula Hawkins writes).

From today, Egg will only accept savings account applications sent over the Net, although existing customers will still be able to complete transactions and open accounts by *telephone* or *post. When the* bank introduces individual savings accounts (Isas) at the end of this year, it is likely that these will be sold online only.

Egg has already hit its first five-year target, set just seven months ago, attracting £5 billion in savings and 500,000 customers.

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Prudential's Egg seeks two million Internet customers

BY PAULA HAWKINS

EGG, the direct banking arm of Prudential, seeks to attract two million Internet customers within the next five years. Mike Harris, chief executive of Egg, said yesterday: "This is an ambitious target, but in an e-commerce world, things can happen faster than you expect."

From today, Egg will only accept savings account applications sent over the Internet, although existing customers will still be able to complete transactions and open accounts by telephone or post.

When the bank introduces individual savings accounts (Isas) at the end of this year, it is likely that these will also be sold online only. Mr Harris admits that this means cutting Egg off from the 30 million customers who are not yet online, but says that Internet use is growing sufficiently quickly to justify the move.

Egg has already hit its first five-year target, set just seven months ago, attracting £5 billion in savings and 500,000 customers by offering high rates of interest on its savings accounts.

The savings rate is guaranteed to remain at the base rate plus 0.5 percentage points this year, and will not fall below base rate until at least 2001. The bank's "current intention" is to continue to guarantee rates after 2001, with the aim of breaking even on the savings side of the business. According to Egg's main competitors, the building societies, these rates are not sustainable in the long term.

However, the move to an Internet-based service will cut costs dramatically. "No one has understood how we could keep savings rates high, but now the story is beginning to unfold," Mr Harris said. "Costs [of Internet banking] can be as much as four times lower than telephone transactions and ten times lower than high street branches."

Mr Harris pointed out that if Egg continued to offer savings accounts over the phone, it would have to build another call centre.

☐ UNITY Trust Bank, the bank set up by trade unions, is to start an Internet banking service late this year. The service is aimed not at the public but at smaller charities, community organisations and trade union branches. Yesterday Sir Dennis Landau, chairman, said the bank earned pre-tax profits of £2.04 million in 1998.

LINKS

WEBSITE: www.egg.com

Kingfisher casts Net over France for free

BY FRASER NELSON

KINGFISHER, the retail group, has joined forces with Bernard Arnault, the French billionaire, to set up a continental rival to Dixons's Freeserve by offering free Internet access to everyone in France.

Libertysurf will be an almost exact replica of Freeserve and rolled out through Darty, Kingfisher's French electrical retail chain.

It will be 40 per cent owned by Kingfisher and 40 per cent owned by Group Arnault, the private company through which M Arnault controls LVMH. The remaining 20 per cent will be offered to the third party who will be hired to provide management and technical support for the venture. Libertysurf will keep all revenue generated from online advertising and take a cut on anything bought through its service.

☐ The takeover battle between M Arnault's LVMH and Gucci was stalled again yesterday when the results of the latest round in their legal battle was postponed until May 27. The courts have ordered Gucci not to spend any of the $2.9 billion it has received from rival suitor François Pinault paid in return for a specially created 40 per cent stake.

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City Diary, page 29



	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.59	2.41
Austria Sch	21.89	20.23
Belgium Fr	64.43	59.47
Canada $	2.515	2.327
Cyprus Cyp £	0.9211	0.8496
Denmark Kr	11.88	10.99
Egypt	5.72	5.11
Finland Mkk	9.58	8.83
France Fr	10.43	9.65
Germany Dm	3.133	2.891
Greece Dr	520	481
Hong Kong $	13.35	12.15
Iceland	130	110
Indonesia	17494	12492
Ireland Pt	1.2500	1.1610
Israel Shk	7.01	6.35
Italy Lira	3115	2878
Japan Yen	208.71	191.18
Malta	0.683	0.624
Netherlds Gld	3.536	3.241
New Zealand $	3.09	2.85
Norway Kr	13.18	12.24
Portugal Esc	316.85	294.82
S Africa Rd	10.44	9.48
Spain Pta	264.07	245.28
Sweden Kr	14.32	13.22
Switzerland Fr	2.590	2.372
Turkey Lira	644363	601534
USA $	1.722	1.579

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

WALT DISNEY

Disappointing returns from video releases such as *The Rescuers* were blamed by Disney for profits down 30 per cent

Disney's profits dismay

FROM ADAM JONES IN NEW YORK

A DISMAL week for Disney continued when the entertainment conglomerate, already fighting an ugly $250 million (£155 million) lawsuit brought by Jeffrey Katzenberg, revealed yesterday that its latest profits were 30 per cent down on last year.

Disney said that second-quarter net profits were $269 million, excluding the purchase of a stake in Infoseek, the Internet search company, last year. Sales increased 5 per cent to $5.5 billion.

One of the main reasons for the profits decline was that the 1999 video releases, such as *Mulan* and *The Rescuers*, did not perform as well as expected.

Costs at ABC, its television network, also increased. Michael Eisner, the chairman and chief executive, said the results were "disappointing". Mr Eisner is one of the key players in the court case unfolding in Los Angeles. Mr Katzenberg, the former head of its film studio, claims he is owed 2 per cent of all Disney profits from his ten-year tenure.

Mr Katzenberg's legal team is claiming that Mr Eisner was part of a conspiracy to deny him this bonus after Mr Katzenberg left in 1994. While it admits that Mr Katzenberg is owed some money, Disney fiercely denies that it practised any deceit.

OFT to scrutinise BAe Marconi deal

THE Office of Fair Trading will today begin scrutinising its most politically sensitive takeover after British Aerospace yesterday signed the definitive agreement to buy GEC's defence electronics businesses for £7 billion (Carl Mortished writes).

The OFT will be under pressure to demand divestments and undertakings from BAe if it does not refer the deal to the Competition Commission. Estimates of the merged group's commercial clout give BAe/Marconi a potential 70 per cent share of the UK's £9 billion per year defence budget.

Defence industry experts doubt the OFT will refer the transaction to the Competition Commission despite fears that the vertical integration of BAe's aircraft with GEC's defence electronics has eliminated the only significant competitor to BAe as a prime contractor in Britain. Overseas firms such as DASA and Thomson-CSF, will lobby for divestments in the area of avionics and optronics.

Darling looks at pension tax law

THE Government is considering making wholesale changes to pension tax law in a bid to ensure that stakeholder schemes get off the ground in two years' time (Gavin Lumsden writes).

Alistair Darling, social security secretary, has revealed that the Government may yet allow people to hold stakeholder plans alongside personal pensions and occupational schemes. This wouldrequire a great deal of effort to iron out the complex rules and regulations that surround the various pension schemes that now exist. However, he has insisted that the Government will do nothing to undermine company pension schemes.

Mr Darling is preparing to embark on a second round of consultation on stakeholder pensions after a first phase generated an overwhelming response from employers' organisations and financial services providers.

Time bomb, page 29

Cabinet enforcer to assess regulations

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

JACK CUNNINGHAM, the Minister for the Cabinet Office, is to force colleagues across Whitehall to consult him before taking policy initiatives which have a regulatory impact on business.

Speaking last night, Dr Cunningham, the so-called Cabinet enforcer, said that all government departments must now consult the Cabinet Office in advance of new policy pronouncements. In addition he said he would draft in business people to help to assess the repercussions of new policies on companies — particularly small businesses.

In a speech to the Social Market Foundation, Dr Cunningham said: "These steps represent fundamentally important changes in the arrangements for regulatory control." The move comes after complaints about mounting regulation, especially the application of the European Working Time Directive and the minimum wage.

Dr Cunningham added: "We hear frequent criticisms from the Institute of Directors, the CBI, small business and others about regulation. But what we seldom hear is how we might respond to the public concerns that very often result in regulation."

Sales of music on song again

WORLDWIDE sales of music began to recover last year after a long period of turmoil, according to figures released yesterday by the IFPI, the music industry's global trade body (Chris Ayres writes).

Sales of music rose by 3 per cent to $38.7 billion (£24 billion), helped by robust growth in the US, and a worldwide 6 per cent rise in compact disc sales.

However, music sales in Asia were hit by economic turmoil, with sales throughout the region, excluding Japan, falling 30 per cent. CDs now represent 65 per cent of all albums sold, compared with 60 per cent in 1997, with cassette sales falling in every region during 1998.

The figures will come as relief to EMI, the British music group that has suffered as a result of sluggish worldwide music markets. EMI shares rose 15p to 505p yesterday.

NET PROFIT$

www.times-money.co.uk

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Sharp rise in AT&T first-quarter profits

AT&T, the US telecoms company that is forging an alliance with BT, reported a 39 per cent rise in first-quarter profits to $1.7 billion (£1 billion). It also announced a partnership with Japan's Nippon Telegraph and Telephone to provide data services for large corporations. The NTT pact followed a move on Sunday by AT&T and BT to buy a 30 per cent stake in Japan Telecom for about $1.8 billion.

AT&T last week made a $58 billion bid to acquire MediaOne Group, the cable TV company, topping MediaOne's existing $48 billion agreement to be bought by Comcast. Including exceptional items AT&T's net income fell to $1.1 billion ($1.3 billion). Revenues, excluding its recent acquisition of cable television company Tele-Communications, increased 6.1 per cent to $13.6 billion ($12.8 billion). Including TCI, revenues rose 9.9 per cent to $14.096 billion.

Home loans boosted

THE housing market is more buoyant than last year, thanks to the Bank of England's recent spate of interest rate cuts, Northern Rock chairman Robert Dickinson said yesterday. He told Northern Rock's annual meeting that the cuts had led to a jump in people wanting home loans. Northern Rock cut its standard variable mortgage rate by 0.1 percentage points to 6.95 per cent on April 12. Northern Rock shares rose 10p to 590p.

Statoil appoints chief

THE Norwegian Government has appointed a new chairman of Statoil, following this week's dismissal of the entire board of the state oil company. Anne Enger Lahnstein, Oil and Energy Minister, has appointed a lawyer, Ole Lund, as chairman and new broom at Statoil after the company was castigated over massive cost overruns in the development of the Asgaard field in the North Sea.

Jarvis Porter cautious

JARVIS PORTER, the label printing and packaging company, yesterday said that trading conditions remain difficult. Profits before £7.1 million of exceptional charges including the £700,000 pay-off of Richard Brewster, its former chief executive, came in at £5 million for the year to February 28, 1999, against £14 million last time. The final dividend was cut to 1.25p (5.3p) giving a total payout for the year of 3.75p (7.8p).

Admen's £124m order

J WALTER THOMPSON, the advertising agency owned by WPP, yesterday announced a $200 million (£124 million) worldwide advertising account from UDV for its Smirnoff, Baileys and Malibu brands. The win came as WPP announced that net new billings had risen to £447 million in the first quarter, compared with £403 million the previous year. WPP shares rose 6½p to 566½p.

CrestCo's £4m rebate

CRESTCO, the operator behind the Stock Exchange's settlement system, yesterday announced a £4 million rebate for subscribers after unveiling a 78 per cent leap in pre-tax profits last year to £15.1 million. The rise was partly a result of a 25 per cent increase in turnover to £52 million and has enabled CrestCo to reduce its transaction charge by 9p to 51p. It also means the company can begin to build its reserves.

Alexandra looks abroad

ALEXANDRA, the workwear supplier, is looking to increase the proportion of clothes it sources from foreign producers in an attempt to increase margins, it said yesterday. The group's pre-tax profits for the year to January 31 rose 22 per cent to £7.1 million on turnover slightly down at £64.2 million (£66 million). The final dividend is 5.1p, for a total of 7.6p, compared with 7p.

Staveley reveals loss

STAVELEY INDUSTRIES, the salt supplier and industrial services group, yesterday said that exceptional charges for the last financial year will come in at £22 million, £3 million more than forecast. The company said this would mean a pre-tax loss of £6 million (£74.1 million loss) for the year to March 31. The shares, which have been falling over the past two years, hit a new low of 63½p, off 3½p on the day. Tempus, page 28

MSB reorganises

MSB INTERNATIONAL, the IT staffing business whose shares slumped almost 90 per cent from a high of £10.47½ last year, yesterday said that a repositioning of its business will cost nearly £3.5 million. The company reported pre-tax profits for the year to January 31 up 28 per cent to £11.6 million on sales up 49 per cent to £191.3 million. The final dividend of 8.3p (6p) brings the total to 12.5p. The shares rose 4p to 217½p.

The French connection



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

An identity crisis has hit Kingfisher. Just as the company is trying to engineer a merger with Asda, on the basis of their shared concentration on low prices, Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy forms a partnership to put Kingfisher alongside names such as Christian Dior and Moët & Chandon.

Perhaps Sir Geoff and Bernard Arnault have been flirting over the Worldwide Web for months and found that, beneath their apparent differences, they *do have much in common.* Perhaps the ordinary folk in France all covet the chic of a Givenchy gown while having to settle for a cut-price personal stereo from Darty. On both counts, however, there is room for doubt.

The undeniable fact is that in his home territory, Sir Geoff's long-term rival, Sir Stanley Kalms, has pulled off a stunning coup. Over the years, Dixons and Kingfisher have each failed to take over the other as their electrical chains have slugged it out on the high street. But Dixons's Freeserve has added billions to the value of the company in just a few months. Where is Comet's re*sponse? The answer is that it is* coming soon, but in France, where it can emulate Dixons's claim to be first into the marketplace. And Kingfisher has been persuaded that M Arnault has the Internet expertise to get Libertysurf up and running before that pioneering position is lost. For *that expertise. Sir Geoff is* sacrificing control of his new enterprise. Sir Stanley can bask in all the earnings that Freeserve may — or may not — yield; Kingfisher can look forward to just 40 per cent of the potential rewards.

The stock market was not in the mood to carp, awarding Kingfisher shares the Internet bounce yesterday. Yet deals involving the mercurial M Arnault are not always as they seem. His efforts to gain control of companies without paying the full price have now become a habit. Whether it be a vineyard or a fashion house, his tactics are not those that would endear him to the Takeover Panel.

Sir Geoff is not one to rush into deals. His procrastination has, on occasion, even lost him deals, most recently the Freemans mail order business. Maybe he has M *Arnault's measure and will* prove a match for his tactics. But they could be time-consuming.

There is no doubt that businesses like Kingfisher need to be on the Web and that they will, increasingly, be selling their wares without benefit of expensive high street stores. The Prudential's Egg gave a further pointer to the increasingly important role of the Internet yesterday, announcing that it will be the single route by which new Egg accounts may be opened. Libertysurf may prove to be a shoppers' paradise for those with eclectic tastes and fat wallets. But it looks hastily run up rather than couture.

Don't consign gold to the scrapheap

For all the wars, financial collapses and local hyperin*flations, the dollar price of* gold has fallen by a third in the past three years. Even when interest rates are historically low and the euro is shedding cents like a moulting canary, the metal that held the world financial system together until the 1970s is as old-hat as a bowler hat.

No wonder a consensus is developing rapidly for the International Monetary Fund to sell gold from its 100 million ounce hoard to help to fund debt write-offs in the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries initiative. Britain and Japan have upped the proposed sale from five million to ten million ounces. That would still be worth \$2.8 billion and the implication is that more will be swapped for interest-bearing assets in future.

At one go, the slow process of debt relief will be accelerated and modernising monetary class warriors will strike another blow *at the old enemy. Gold will be fur*ther demonetised and reduced to the status of a common commodity, like Brent crude, pork bellies or Chinese whole ginger futures.

Only Germany among the Group of Seven is now conservative enough to be worried. As Bundesbank influence fades, however, even Germany is coming to concede that the matter must be considered, even if agreement and action have been put off for six months, along with the much-criticised debt plan.

Germany says that its anxieties are only about the side-effects of IMF gold sales. The principle of debt relief is agreed, if not the method and scope. In any case, the IMF will need to husband its resources better if it is to turn the new emergency loan facility into reality and avoid a repeat of the domino Asian crash.

Surely, however, Germany is *right to be cautious about de*bunking gold altogether. If Russia is ever to steady its economy, stabilise its currency, become creditworthy and a full member of the Group of Eight, it will only do so by mobilising its gold production for use both as currency backing and debt collateral. Oth*ers will follow suit.*

Gold will never rule the world again, but should play a bigger monetary role in the first decades of the new millennium than in the dying decades of the old.

Mirror may shine on its own

While the Competition Commission decides whether or not Regional Independent Media or Trinity should be allowed to take over Mirror Group, the market may intervene.

The ousting of David Montgomery was a messy business but, three months on, his successor, John Allwood, has settled into the role and Mirror is no longer looking quite so vulnerable. The share price has moved upwards to a level that might begin to make a contested bid tough for Trinity and almost impossible for unquoted RIM.

The market may be as good a judge of what is right for Trinity as the renamed, but not restructured, former Monopolies Commission. The four-member panel charged with pronouncing on *the proposed bids for Mirror has* drawn up a list of the issues it believes to be relevant, including the ability of a regional newspaper company successfully to manage *national newspapers.*

Who will be determining the answer? Well, the panel is led by Denise Kingsmill, famed as a lawyer but less well-known as a non-executive *director of struggling store* group MFI. Industry expertise will be provided by one Professor Donald Trelford, whose reign as editor and then chief executive of *The Observer would hardly be categorised* as a commercial triumph.

Balkan question

A SIGN of the times. The World Bank, reacting swiftly to events in the Balkans, has earmarked \$70 million in aid for Macedonia and Albania, the main states affected, to cope with the influx of half a million refugees. That is clearly a great deal of money. Indeed, it is nearly as much as Microsoft offered to Mark Booth, chief executive of BSkyB, as a golden hello to manage its Internet operations. Mr Booth has, however, received a more attrac*tive offer closer to home.*

Anti-age drug in tests

PHYTOPHARM, the company seeking to develop medicines from plants, thinks it may have stumbled on the secret of eternal youth (Paul Durman writes).

It is testing a compound that appears to reverse the ageing process, at least in the brains of aged rats. The discovery initially offers a possible treatment for Alzheimer's disease and age-related memory disorders.

Phytopharm is already talking to three multinational drug companies about P58, and, despite its potential value, plans to license it at an early stage.

Phytopharm reported interim losses reduced by a third to £1.4 million.

Acorn to vanish in break-up deal

By Chris Ayres

ACORN, one of the best-known British computer *brands of the 1980s, is to disap*pear from the stock market in a complex break-up deal worth nearly £270 million.

The deal will earn Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, the investment bank which orchestrated it, an estimated £45 million fee before costs.

*Acorn's demise was precipi*tated by the enormous success of ARM Holdings, the microchip designer created and nurtured by Acorn, and floated separately on the stock market in April last year.

The value of ARM, which designs microchips for mobile phones and *other electronic* gadgets, has rocketed from just £264 million on flotation to more than £1.3 billion today.

Before yesterday's deal was *announced, Acorn's 24 per* cent stake in ARM was worth £312 million, while Acorn's stock market value was just £225.5 million. Acorn, advised by Close Brothers, decided that yesterday's break-up deal was the best way "to return value to shareholders".

The deal took the form of a £270 million takeover bid from Morgan Stanley, and will see Acorn shareholders receive two ARM shares for every five in Acorn. Morgan Stanley will be left with an estimated seven million ARM shares, worth about £45 million, plus the cor*porate shell of Acorn.*

As part of yesterday's deal Acorn's set-top box business will be sold to Pace Micro Technology for £200,000, *while Stan Boland, Acorn's re*cently appointed chief executive, will buy Element 14 for about £1 million, with the help of other senior Acorn managers. Element 14 will take control of the Acorn brand, although there are no current plans for it to be used.

The only Acorn director with a significant interest in the business is Hermann Hauser. A trust of which Mr Hauser is "a potential beneficiary" will take a stake in ARM worth an estimated £8 million.

Shares in Acorn rose 9½p to 254½p yesterday, while shares *in ARM fell 32½p to 665p.*

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Primark in £20m store deal

PRIMARK, the fashion chain run by Associated British Foods, has agreed to buy ten of the Living department stores being closed by Co-op*erative Retail Services* (CRS) (Fraser Nelson writes).

It is understood to have paid about £20 million. They are being bought from Miller Developments, the Scottish private construction company which on Monday paid £69 million for all 46 Living stores.

The move will raise hopes of about 350 of Living's 1,500 workers who are facing redundancy after the CRS decided to pull out of everything except groceries.

Primark, which is based in Dublin, runs 97 stores across the UK and Ireland with ten in the London area.

Diageo acts to sell Cinzano

By Dominic Walsh

CINZANO, the vermouth famously spilt by Leonard Rossiter on Joan Collins's dress in a series of TV ads, has been put up for sale as part of a clear-out of non-core drinks brands by Diageo.

The food and drink group has appointed Warburg Dillon Read, the investment bank, to canvass interest in Cinzano together with three of its brandies — Metaxa of Greece, Asbach of Germany and Italy's Vecchia Romagna.

The four brands made a combined profit last year of £60 million and are valued by analysts at anywhere between £350 mil*lion and £500 million. Observers* cited Canandaigua Brands, the US group that recently acquired Matthew Clark, and the recently formed joint venture between Highland Distillers and Rémy Cointreau as possible bidders.

Cinzano is by far the biggest of the four brands. Including its sparkling wine brand, it has total volumes of about 4.5 million cases compared with less than three million cases for the other three put together.

Diageo also announced yesterday that it had agreed to sell four ouzo brands to Campari for an undisclosed sum. The biggest of the four, with sales volumes of 500,000 cases, is Ouzo 12. It said the price was "not material".

Diageo's rationalisation of its European brands continues the clear-out initiated after its *creation from the merger of* Guinness and GrandMet. It recently sold several North American food and drink brands and this month hoisted a "for sale" sign over Cruzcampo, the Spanish brewer.

Prestwick shares suspended

SHARES in Prestwick *Holdings, the troubled elec*tronics company, were suspended yesterday on the London Stock Exchange pending clarification of its financial position (Matthew Barbour writes). A further announcement is expected tomorrow.

*The group, which manu*factures printed circuit boards, said a deterioration in trading conditions had led to "significant" cashflow problems. The suspension at 13½p follows a profits warning at the end of February, in which the *group said losses would* continue into the second half of the year because of a slump in orders. The shares have fallen from a high of 60p last year.



Record close for FTSE on back of US recovery

SHARE prices briefly breached the 6,600 level for the first time on the way to chalking up another record-breaking close.

Inspired by the overnight recovery on the Dow Jones industrial average and fresh opening gains in New York yesterday, leading shares in London enjoyed another inspired performance.

At its best, the FTSE 100 index reached a new peak of 6,635.9 before closing 90.0 up at 6,593.6.

Demand was clearly concentrated among blue chips with the FTSE 250 index only 20.1 up at 5,808.7. The total number of shares traded reached 1.09 billion.

It was a red letter day for Lord Hollick, chairman of **United News & Media**, publisher of *the The Express*, as he watched the price rise 38p to 656p on the back of Monday's bullish annual meeting statement.

Yesterday's rise was also backed up by HSBC Securities, which has raised its recommendation from "hold" to "trading buy". It has also set a target price of 725p. Merrill Lynch is another big fan of the shares, lifting its recommendation from "accumulate" to "trading buy", while Henderson Crosthwaite has reiterated its "buy" stance.

Telecom shares remained in favour with stock shortages exaggerating the gains. **British Telecom** surged 42p to £10.89, reflecting the group's decision *to join up with AT&T and buy* a 30 per cent stake in Japan Telecom. Credit Suisse First Boston, the broker, is bracing itself for strong revenue *growth from BT in the final* quarter. Most estimates are pitched at between 7 per cent and 8 per cent, while CSFB reckons the figure could be *nearer 12 per cent.*

West LB Panmure, the broker, expects great things from **Rolls-Royce**, up 8½p at 294p, and has reiterated its "buy" stance on the shares.

Allied Domecq shaded 8p to 513p ahead of results tomorrow. There have been vague whispers that LVMH may be considering a bid for the drinks group. However, sources close to LVMH dismissed the suggestion. LVMH continues to hold a 7 per cent stake in **Diageo**, up 30p at 718½p, after confirmation that it has put four drinks brands up for sale which brokers say could fetch at least £350 million. It has also sold four ouzo brands.


Lord Hollick saw United News & Media surge 38p after Monday's bullish statement and support from brokers

An upbeat trading statement lifted **Vickers** 8p to 171p. Shareholders were told at the annual meeting that volumes in the first quarter were well above the level achieved during the comparable period last year.

Silvermines stood out with a jump of 7½p at 38½ as speculators gambled on the prospect of a management buyout. Clem Jansen, former chief executive, has already offered 47p a share, which was rejected by Bob Morton, chairman, and the closed-circuit television manufacturer's biggest shareholder. At the same time, TT Group continues to hold 6 per cent of the shares and may choose to make a full bid of its own. Silvermines tried to play down the speculation by pointing out that no formal offer had been received.

Takeover favourite **Monument Oil & Gas** receded another ¼p to 46½p despite the recovery in the oil price. Recently its name was linked with rivals **Lasmo**, ½p dearer at 149¾p, and **Enterprise Oil**, 2½p lighter at 431½p. Both companies moved to play down the speculation.

Swallow held steady at 320p despite bar room banter that NH Hoteles, the Spanish group that has just pulled out of bid talks with Jarvis Hotels, may be interested in its hotels.

The breakdown in merger talks with **Regent Inns**, up 5p at 196p, has provided investors with a fresh opportunity to buy shares in **SFI Group**, up 3p at 206½p. That is the conclusion of Charterhouse, the broker. SFI's record remains impressive in a competitive marketplace, it says.

A broker's recommendation lifted **Premier Farnell** to its best level this year with a rise of 14½p to 263p. Merrill Lynch, the broker has raised its recommendation from "neutral" to "accumulate". The group saw its price tumble from a peak of 440½p last year, after a profits warning. Merrill maintains the electronic components group is now on the road to recovery.

Further reflection of Monday's trading news hoisted **BATM Advanced Communications** 113½p to 698½. Traders will only make a price in 1,000 shares at a time and stock shortages are inclined to exaggerate price movements.

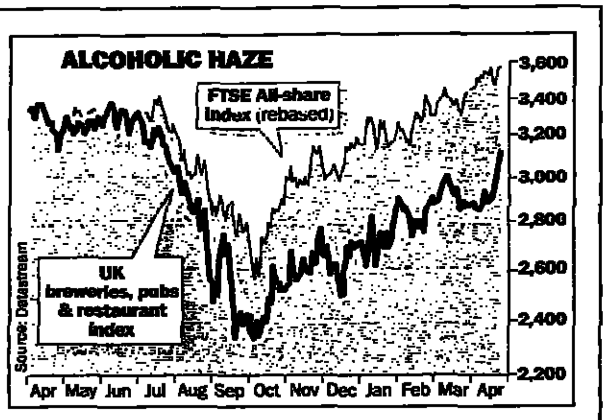
H Young Holdings rose 14p to 95½p. The price has been depressed by an overhang of stock in the marketplace after M&G unloaded a sizeable stake.

□ **GILT-EDGED:** Bond prices in London frittered away an early lead as the equity market continued to build up a full head of steam. Prices saw losses at either end of the yield curve.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt finished unchanged at £116.46 as the total number of contracts traded reached 28,000.

In longs, Treasury 8 percent 2021 dropped 42p to £146.03, while in shorts Treasury 7 per cent 2002 shed 11p at £105.85.

□ **NEW YORK:** Positive earnings reports boosted share prices in late morning trade. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 58.99 at 10,777.58.



LOSING focus is a common complaint among drinkers after one too many.

But BT Alex Brown, the broker, says this is also a complaint afflicting investors, especially those investing in the big brewers.

Britain's brewers have delivered earnings growth in line with the market, but have been aggressively derated, says Graeme Eadie at BTAB.

"Investors seem to dislike their diversification strategies for two reasons. Firstly, they have held back returns, and secondly, they have diluted focus," he warns.

Unless the brewers can restore that focus and improve returns, a further derating of the sector is likely.

Whitbread, 1½p better at £10.34, is furthest down the road in terms of separating its beer and pub retailing operations and is seen as a "buy".

But the strategic routes of Bass, up 27½p at 980p, and Scottish & Newcastle, 10½p better at 778p, remain unclear and only rate a "market perform".

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	10777.58 (+58.99)
S&P Composite	1359.40 (-0.64)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	16957.27 (+38.76)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	13364.79 (+237.77)

Amsterdam:

AEX Index	574.41 (+-8.63)

Sydney:

AO	3145.2 (+15.5)

Frankfurt:

DAX	5347.50 (+91.28)

Singapore:

Straits	1876.39 (+6.77)

Brussels:

BEL20	3257.86 (+13.19)

Paris:

CAC-40	4390.92 (+106.52)

Zurich:

SMI Index	7377.3 (+122.6)

London:

FT 30	4111.6 (+48.2)
FTSE 100	6593.6 (+90.0)
FTSE 250	5808.7 (+20.1)
FTSE 350	3139.0 (+37.9)
FTSE Eurotop 100	3064.08 (+49.4)
FTSE All-Share	3039.21 (+35.49)
FTSE Non Financials	3045.06 (+35.41)
FTSE Fixed Interest	154.35 (-0.36)
FTSE Govt Secs	110.39 (-0.40)
Bargains	86245
SEAQ Volume	1090.2m
US$	1.6164 (+0.0036)
Euro	0.6587 (+0.0014)
£:SDR	1.1921
Exchange Index	104.1 (-0.1)
Bank on England official close (4pm)	
RPI	164.1 Mar (2.1%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	163.2 Mar (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Affinity Internet	142½	−	1
Br Smaller Co's VCT (100)	95		...
Br Smlr Cos VCT Wrts	12½		...
Cairngorm Euro Restruct	112½		...
Cairngorm Restruct Wrts	25½	+	½
Edinburgh Inc & Val	110	+	½
Edinburgh Val Zero Dv Pf	106½		...
Fleming I & G Units 2006	648		...
Gartmore High Income	110½	+	½
Gartmore Zero Div Pf	109		...
Halifax Non Cum Pf	100½		...
Northern 2 VCT	100		...
Sherry FitzGerald	142	−	5
Sports Internet	193½	−	3
Triven VCT	100		...
Voyager 2000	8		...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Calluna n/p (125)	3	+	¼
Ennex International n/p (IR5p)	2		...
Mice Group n/p (80)	26	+	7
Versalite n/p (05)	1¼		...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Stock	Close	Chng	Chng%
World Telecom	70	+ 11	+ 18.6
Young (H)	95½	+ 14	+ 17.1
Ulster TV	202½	+ 22½	+ 12.5
Sothebys	2537½	+237½	+ 10.3
Korea Euro	297	+ 24¼	+ 8.8
KBC Adv Tech	176½	+ 14	+ 8.6
GEC	660	+ 51½	+ 8.4
NRP	205	+ 15	+ 7.8
Vosper Thorny	1011½	+ 69	+ 7.3
Tibbet & Britin	417½	+ 27½	+ 7.0
Seascope Ship	188½	+ 12	+ 6.7
Boot (Henry)	240	+ 15	+ 6.6
United News	656	+ 38	+ 6.1
Standard Rook	173½	+ 10	+ 6.1
Schrod Korea	526	+ 30	+ 6.0
Flextech	901	+ 50	+ 5.8
Kingfisher	882	+ 46	+ 5.5
TI	495	+ 25¾	+ 5.4
Charter	453½	+ 23½	+ 5.4
Framl Dual Cp	251	+ 12½	+ 5.2
Royal & Sun Al	526	+ 26	+ 5.2

FALLS:

Stock	Close	Chng	Chng%
Acal	460	− 32½	− 6.5
Cox Insce	187½	− 13	− 6.4
Easynet	502½	− 25	− 4.7
ARM Holdings	665	− 32½	− 4.6
Virtual Internet	212½	− 10	− 4.4
Dixons Grp	1321	− 62	− 4.4

TEMPUS

Reinventing works

SHARES in Invensys, the newly named BTR Siebe, were the FTSE 100's largest faller yesterday: this on a day when the blue chip index hit new highs. Despite this, however, the shares have enjoyed a renaissance in recent weeks.

The whole merger thing left many observ*ers and shareholders* — in both old BTR and old Siebe — cold. Back in the dark days of January it looked like the merger would turn out to be one of those where two plus two would end up equalling three. Tempus, for its part, allied itself to the *bearish school of thought.* But good evidence is now emerging to suggest that we doubters misjudged the situation.

Yesterday's £29 million disposal hardly registers in the context of this £13 billion company. But it is illustrative of the continuing change that is taking place at the firm. More and more, the emphasis is on control systems. More and more Invensys is concentrating on making things such as temperature-sensitive food manufacturing equipment, although the range of products, and applications, is wide.

Invensys shares have benefited from the sentiment swing in favour of cyclical stocks. The group's exposure to the Far East — which undermined BTR and Siebe shares so fundamentally last year — is also adding spice as those economies begin to stir.

Two and two, in other words, already equals at least four and a half. With a following wind, the aggregation could bring an even better score. At 315p Invensys shares trade at the equivalent of about 16 times' forecast earnings for the financial year that ended on April 4. The stock is no longer in the bargain basement but it does still represent value for money. Buy.

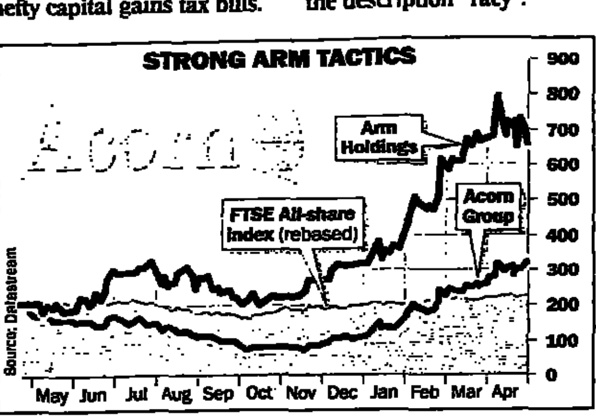
Acorn

FEW will mourn the demise of Acorn, the technology group that failed to shake off its image as a manufacturer of dusty old BBC computers, and baffled the City with its transformation into an intellectual property business.

Shareholders may feel queasy about the fact that Acorn's directors have gained control of the Element 14 unit for a song, and that the set-top box business was let go so cheaply. But they should be prepared to forget about the wrinkles. The huge success of ARM Holdings, the mobile phone microchip designer, which grew out of Acorn into a mighty oak, makes up for this company's other deficiencies. ARM, floated off on the *London Stock Exchange this* time last year, has quintupled in value. Latterly Acorn's retained 24.4 per cent stake in ARM was valued by the stock market at more than the whole of Acorn itself.

The complex Acorn-ARM deal amounts to a takeover of the parent by the child and Acorn shareholders will get ARM stock in consideration. The devilish structure of the deal, incidentally, comes in order to circumvent potentially hefty capital gains tax bills.

Acorn shareholders should happily take ARM shares and hold. Newcomers to the story, however, need to think twice before investing. Yester*day's deal, in association with* another recent and chunky share sale, has softened the price. But even so, ARM trades on an earnings multi*ple that gives new meaning to* the description "racy".



Prudential

PRUDENTIAL'S Egg savings account is one of the big success stories of the year. Consumers are flocking in, giving this embryo £5 billion in less than a year.

But while Prudential is undoubtedly right in indentifying e-commerce as the retailing platform of the future, especially for financial services, shareholders may care to remember some basic facts.

Customers are on the right end of a giveaway, for sure. But it is Prudential shareholders who pick up the bill. Currently Egg account-holders receive interest at more than the base rate. Moreover, for the foreseeable future, Egg interest rate pledges seem to leave corporate profitability out of the equation. As interest rates shrink, the ability to turn a positive and profitable margin becomes harder. And operating costs, for all the efficiency of direct/phone/Internet banking, still weigh.

Moreover, while £5 billion is a lot of money, the profit potential is not nearly as impressive. Even if the Pru managed to earn a 1 per cent interest rate margin, the revenue from £5 billion would only be £50 million. In the context of the Pru's annual pre-tax profits of £1 billion-plus, even this ultra-optimistic revenue estimate pales.

Shareholders need to keep Egg's potential in perspective. But that is not to say the Pru is anything but a class act. Assuming the markets overall can maintain and progress on current values, it is as well to keep sizeable holdings in the Pru.

Staveley

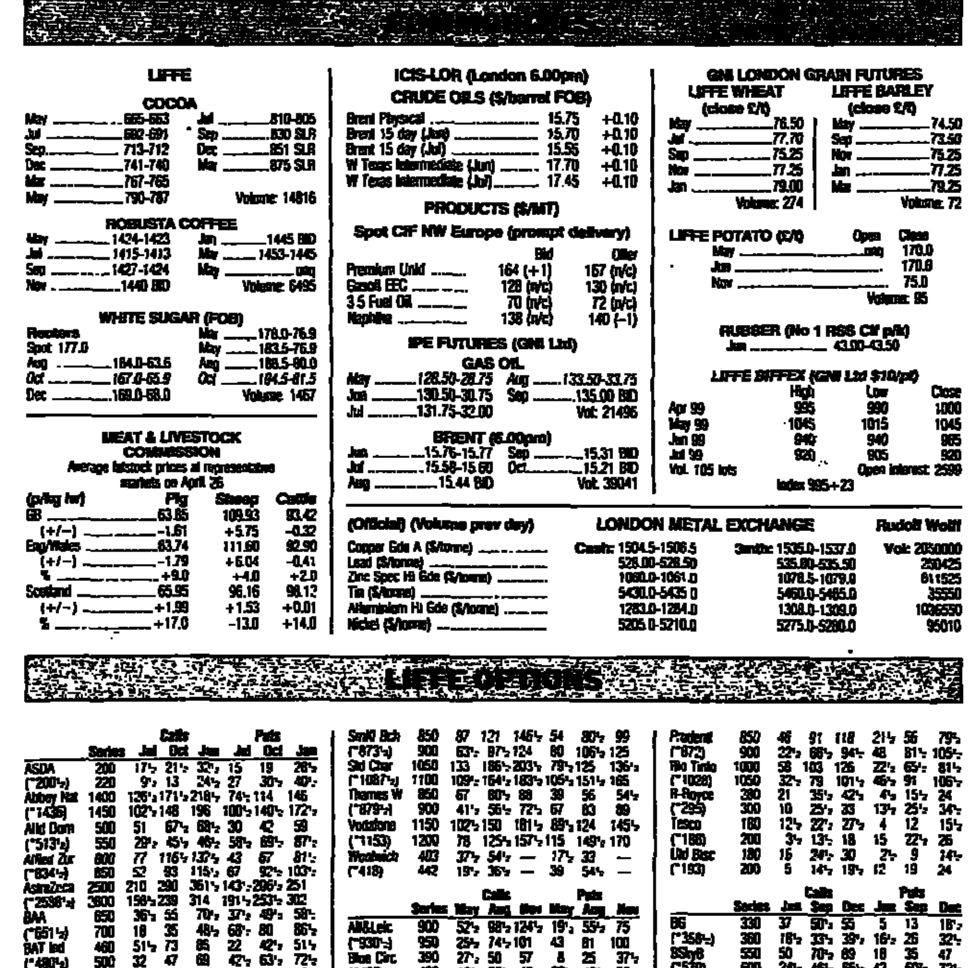
SIR RON Brierley, the New Zealand tycoon, had Staveley about right. Sir Ron, chairman of the investment group Guinness Peat, which bought a 16 per cent stake in Staveley some 20 months ago, recently said: "Staveley still has many of the attributes of an undervalued share price and good asset backing. However, we seriously underestimated its capacity for an apparently relentless destruction of shareholder value."

Sir Ron has been pressing for Staveley to sell the cash-generative British Salt division. A disposal could raise around £77 million — which is about the same as the current market cap of the whole company. This would leave Staveley as a support services group.

But Staveley management argues that it must rebuild the business as a whole entity before any sell-offs. Following concerted efforts, Staveley does have a leaner look, but the profit benefits of the restructuring still seem far off.

Yesterday's profit warning knocked the shares down 3½p to 63½. The stock has tumbled from 231p in 1996. It is not a pretty picture but long-suffering shareholders should hold on a while yet.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE



COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

May	665-663	Jul	810-805
Jul	692-691	Sep	830 SLR
Sep	713-712	Dec	851 SLR
Dec	741-740	Mar	875 SLR
Mar	767-765		
May	790-787		Volume: 14816

ROBUSTA COFFEE

May	1424-1423	Jan	1445 BID
Jul	1415-1413	Mar	1453-1445
Sep	1427-1424	May	unq
Nov	1440 BID		Volume: 6495

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	178.0-76.9
Spot 177.0		May	183.5-76.9
Aug	164.0-63.6	Aug	188.5-80.0
Oct	167.0-65.9	Oct	184.5-81.5
Dec	169.0-58.0		Volume: 1457

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 26

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	63.85	109.93	93.42
(+/−)	−1.61	+5.75	−0.32
Eng/Wales	63.74	111.60	92.90
(+/−)	−1.79	+6.04	−0.41
%	+9.0	+4.0	+2.0
Scotland	65.95	96.16	98.12
(+/−)	+1.99	+1.53	+0.01
%	+17.0	−13.0	+14.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	15.75	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Jun)	15.70	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Jul)	15.56	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	17.70	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	17.45	+0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	164 (+1)	167 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	128 (n/c)	130 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	70 (n/c)	72 (n/c)
Naphtha	138 (n/c)	140 (−1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

May	128.50-28.75	Aug	133.50-33.75
Jun	130.50-30.75	Sep	135.00 BID
Jul	131.75-32.00		Vol: 21496

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jun	15.76-15.77	Sep	15.31 BID
Jul	15.58-15.60	Oct	15.21 BID
Aug	15.44 BID		Vol: 39041

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	76.50	May	74.50
Jul	77.70	Sep	73.50
Sep	75.25	Nov	75.25
Nov	77.25	Jan	77.25
Jan	79.00	Mar	79.25
Volume: 274		Volume: 72	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
May	unq	170.0
Jun		170.0
Nov		75.0
		Volume: 95

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kl)
Jun 43.00-43.50

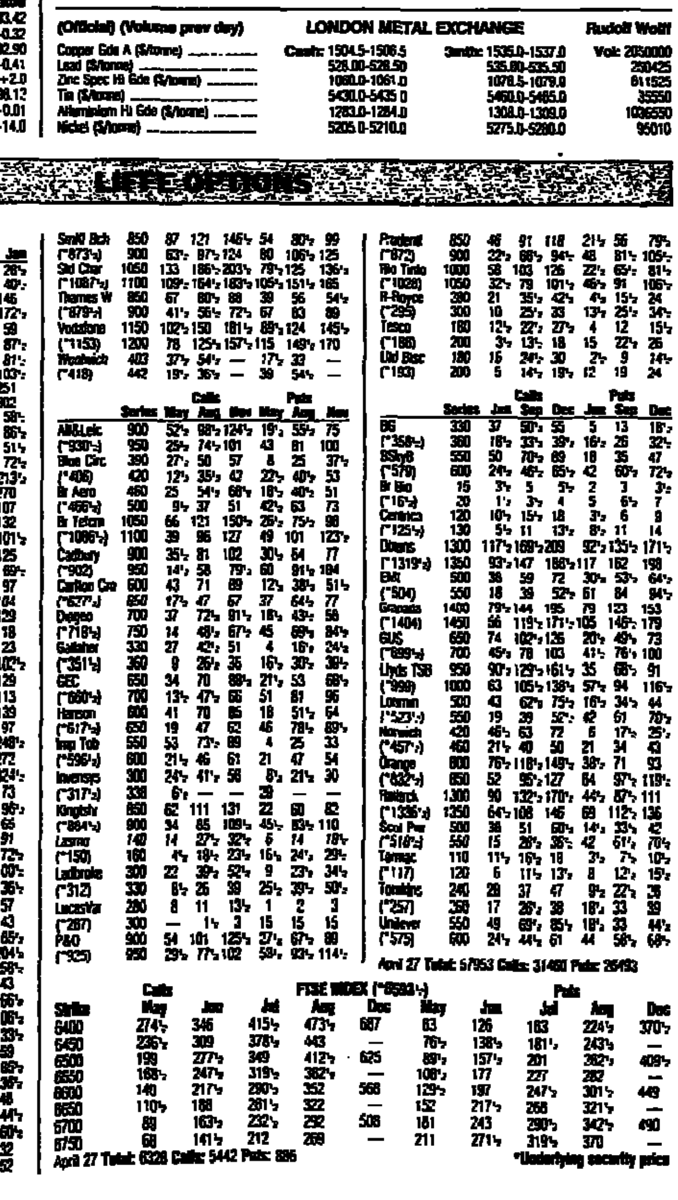
LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 99	995	990	1000
May 99	1045	1015	1045
Jun 99	940	940	965
Jul 99	920	905	920
Vol: 105 lots		Open interest: 2599	

Index 995+23

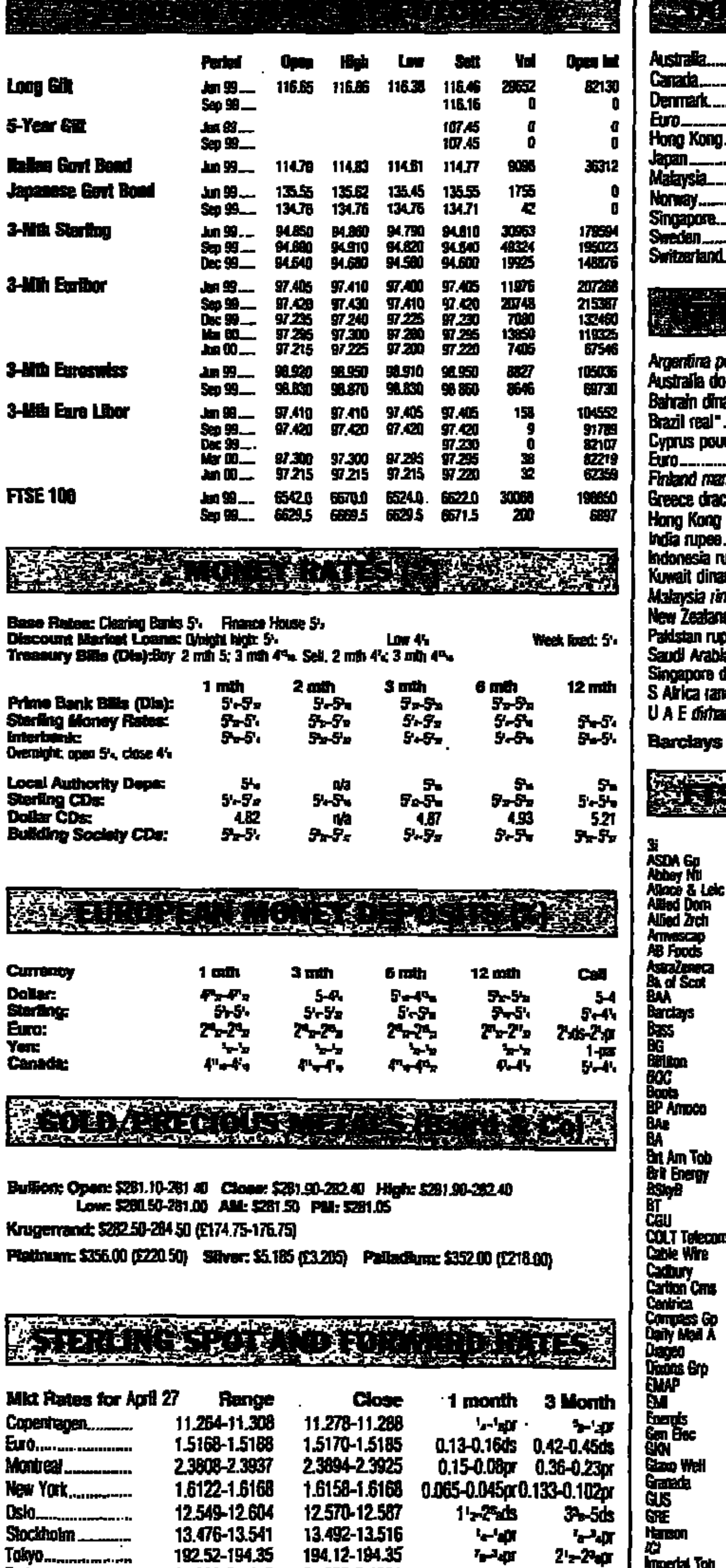
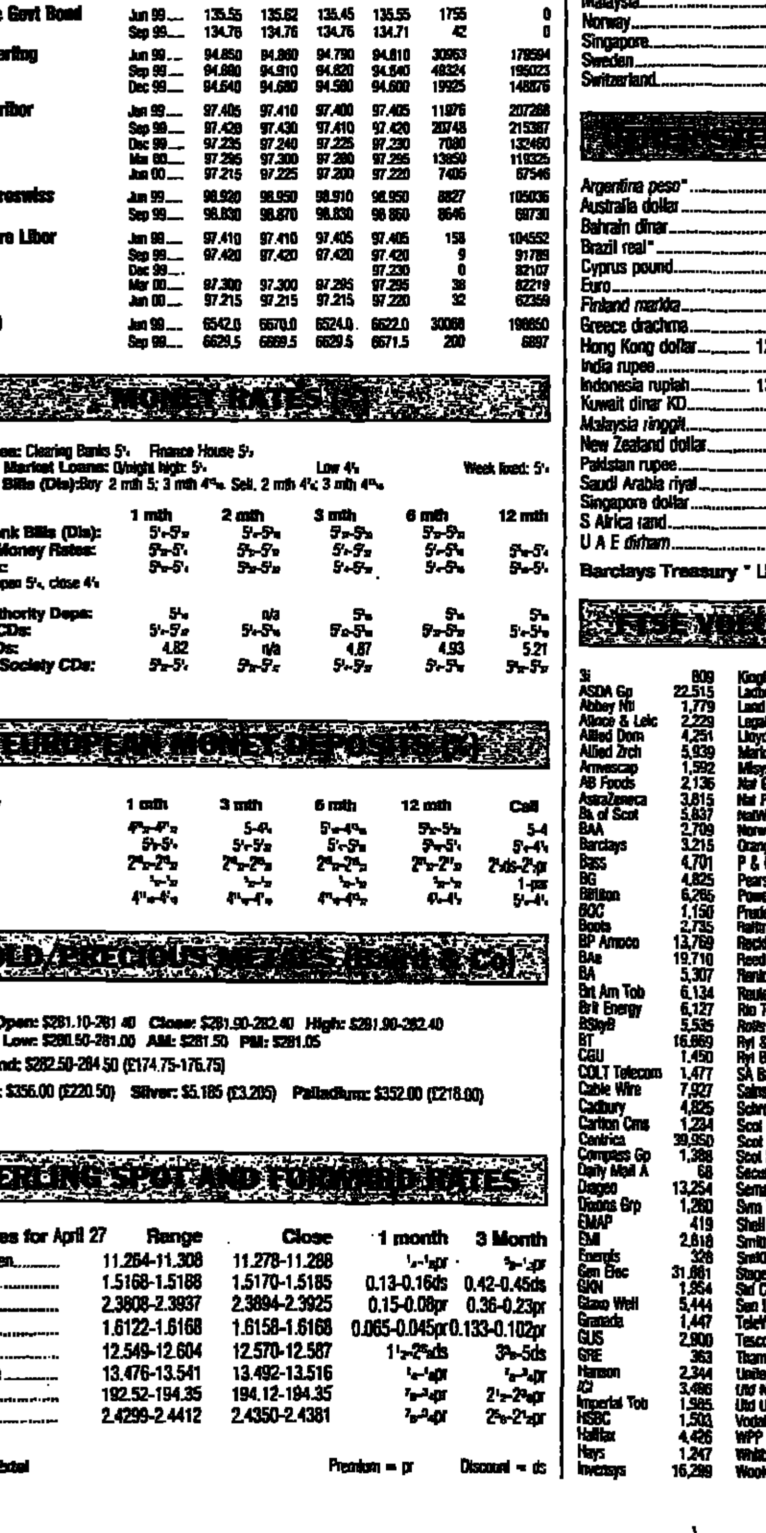
LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1504.5-1506.5	1535.0-1537.0	2050000
Lead ($/tonne)	528.00-528.50	535.00-535.50	250425
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1060.0-1061.0	1078.5-1079.0	611525
Tin ($/tonne)	5430.0-5435.0	5460.0-5465.0	35550
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1283.0-1284.0	1308.0-1309.0	1036550
Nickel ($/tonne)	5205.0-5210.0	5275.0-5280.0	95010



LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
ASDA	200	17½	21½	32½	15	19	26½
(*200½)	220	9½	13	24½	27	30½	40½
Abbey Nat	1400	126½	171½	218½	74½	114	146
(*1436)	1450	102½	148	196	100½	140½	172½
Smkl Bch	850	87	121	146½	54	80½	99
(*873½)	900	63½	97½	124	80	106½	125
Std Char	1050	133	186½	203½	79½	125	136½
(*1087½)	1100	109½	164½	183½	105½	151½	165
Thames W	850	67	80½	88	39	56	54½
(*879½)	900	41½	56½	72½	67	83	89
Prudentl	850	46	91	118	21½	56	79½
(*873)	900	22½	66½	94½	48	81½	105½
Rio Tinto	1000	58	103	126	22½	65½	81½
(*1028)	1050	32½	79	101½	46½	91	105½
R-Royce	280	21	35½	42½	4½	15½	24
(*295)	300	10	25½	33	13½	25½	34½
[illegible]							

FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol	Open Int
Long Gilt	Jun 99	116.65	116.86	116.38	116.46	29652	82130
	Sep 99				116.16	0	0
5-Year Gilt	Jun 99				107.45	0	0
	Sep 99				107.45	0	0
Italian Govt Bond	Jun 99	114.78	114.83	114.61	114.77	9096	36312
Japanese Govt Bond	Jun 99	135.55	135.62	135.45	135.55	1755	0
	Sep 99	134.76	134.76	134.76	134.71	42	0
3-Mth Sterling	Jun 99	94.850	94.860	94.790	94.810	30963	179594
	Sep 99	94.880	94.910	94.820	94.840	49324	195023
	Dec 99	94.640	94.680	94.580	94.600	19925	148876
3-Mth Euribor	Jun 99	97.405	97.410	97.400	97.405	11976	207288
	Sep 99	97.420	97.430	97.410	97.420	20748	215387
	Dec 99	97.235	97.240	97.225	97.230	7080	132460
	Mar 00	97.295	97.300	97.280	97.295	13850	119325
	Jun 00	97.215	97.225	97.200	97.220	7405	67546
3-Mth Euroswiss	Jun 99	98.920	98.950	98.910	98.950	8827	105036
	Sep 99	98.830	98.870	98.830	98.860	8646	69730
3-Mth Euro Libor	Jun 99	97.410	97.410	97.405	97.405	158	104552
	Sep 99	97.420	97.420	97.420	97.420	9	91789
	Dec 99				97.230	0	82107
	Mar 00	97.300	97.300	97.295	97.295	38	82219
	Jun 00	97.215	97.215	97.215	97.220	32	62359
FTSE 100	Jun 99	6542.0	6570.0	6524.0	6622.0	30068	198850
	Sep 99	6629.5	6669.5	6629.5	6671.5	200	6897

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¼ Finance House 5½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5¼ Low 4½ Week fixed: 5¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy 2 mth 5; 3 mth [illegible]. Sell, 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible]

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open 5¼, close 4½					
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	4.82	n/a	4.87	4.93	5.21
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5-4
Sterling:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Euro:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par
Canada:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Bank & Co)

Bullion: Open: $281.10-281.40 Close: $281.90-282.40 High: $281.90-282.40
Low: $280.50-281.00 AM: $281.50 PM: $281.05

Krugerrand: $282.50-284.50 (£174.75-176.75)

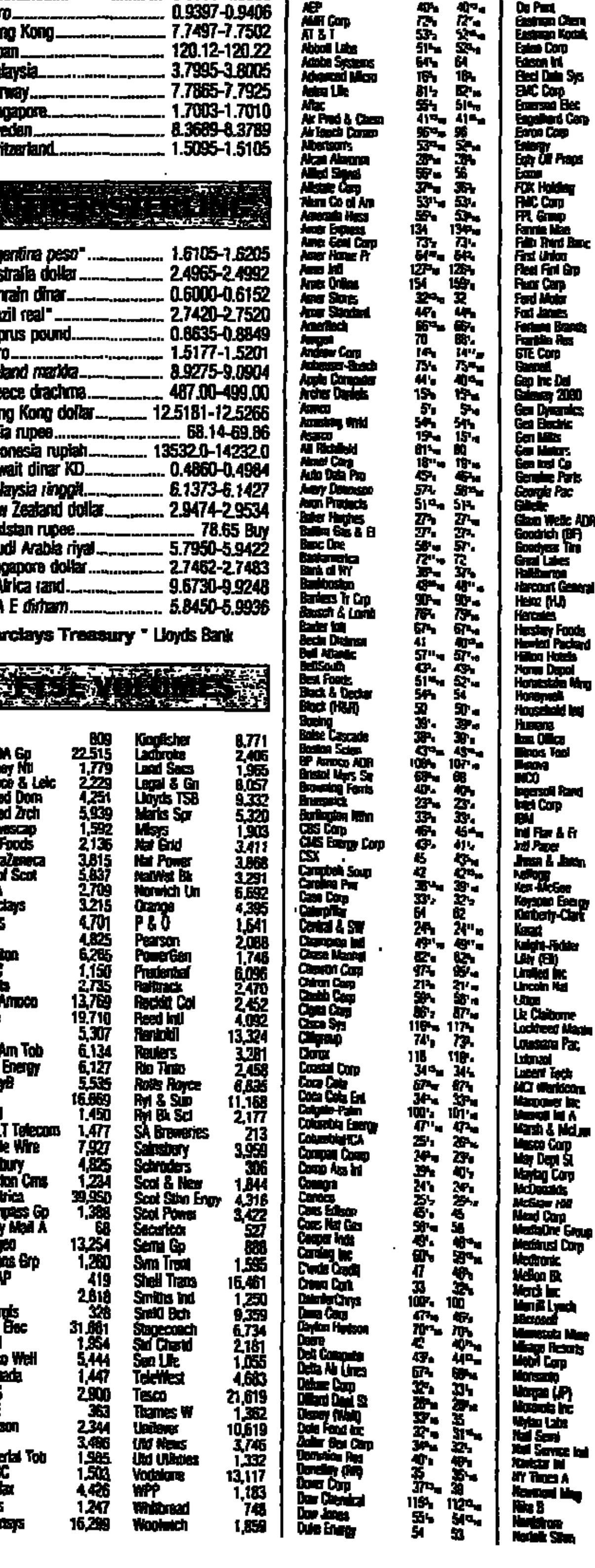
Platinum: $356.00 (£220.50) Silver: $5.185 (£3.205) Palladium: $352.00 (£218.00)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for April 27	Range	Close	1 month	3 Month
Copenhagen	11.264-11.308	11.278-11.288	[illegible]	[illegible]
Euro	1.5168-1.5188	1.5170-1.5185	0.13-0.16ds	0.42-0.45ds
Montreal	2.3808-2.3937	2.3894-2.3925	0.15-0.08pr	0.36-0.23pr
New York	1.6122-1.6168	1.6158-1.6168	0.065-0.045pr	0.133-0.102pr
Oslo	12.549-12.604	12.570-12.587	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	13.476-13.541	13.492-13.516	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	192.52-194.35	194.12-194.35	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	2.4299-2.4412	2.4350-2.4381	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Extel

Premium = pr Discount = ds



DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.5465-1.5477
Canada	1.4822-1.4832
Denmark	6.9896-6.9936
Euro	0.9397-0.9406
Hong Kong	7.7497-7.7502
Japan	120.12-120.22
Malaysia	3.7995-3.8005
Norway	7.7865-7.7925
Singapore	1.7003-1.7010
Sweden	8.3689-8.3789
Switzerland	1.5095-1.5105

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6105-1.6205
Australia dollar	2.4965-2.4992
Bahrain dinar	0.6000-0.6152
Brazil real*	2.7420-2.7520
Cyprus pound	0.8635-0.8849
Euro	1.5177-1.5201
Finland markka	8.9275-9.0904
Greece drachma	487.00-499.00
Hong Kong dollar	12.5181-12.5266
India rupee	68.14-69.86
Indonesia rupiah	13532.0-14232.0
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4860-0.4984
Malaysia ringgit	6.1373-6.1427
New Zealand dollar	2.9474-2.9534
Pakistan rupee	78.65 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.7950-5.9422
Singapore dollar	2.7462-2.7483
S Africa rand	9.6730-9.9248
U A E dirham	5.8450-5.9936

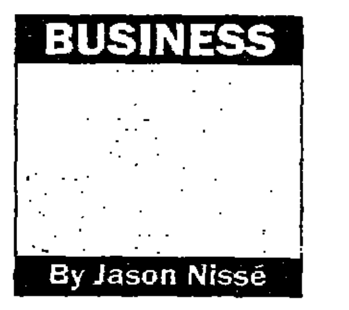
Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	809	Kingfisher	8,771
ASDA Gp	22,515	Ladbroke	2,406
[illegible]			

WALL STREET

	Apr 27 midday	Apr 26 close
AEP	[illegible]	[illegible]
AMR Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
AT & T	[illegible]	[illegible]
Abbott Labs	[illegible]	[illegible]
Adobe Systems	[illegible]	64
[illegible]		



Football ownership is goal of media

BUSINESS

By Jason Nissé

Barclay Knapp must be spitting feathers. Only days after he decided that there was no chance of success for the £160 million bid for Newcastle United tabled by NTL, his cable group, an almost identical deal has taken place across the Channel.

Bordeaux, which frightened the life out of many of the European big boys with its run in the Uefa Cup a couple of years ago, and has nurtured stars such as Zinedine Zidane, Bixente Lizarazu and Christophe Dugarry, has been bought by a consortium of the French TV group, M6, and CLT-UFA, which is jointly owned by German publishing giant Bertelsmann and Albert Frère, the Belgian financier. The companies will take a67 per cent stake in Bordeaux and then gradually exert their influence in a deal worth about £25 million — so nicking Bordeaux from the clutches of Enic, the football investment group, which has also recently failed in attempts to buy Tottenham Hotspur and Wembley.

Unlike in the UK, where NTL's decision to withdraw was prompted by the regulatory blocking of BSkyB's purchase of Manchester United, the concept of media groups owning football clubs is well established in France. Canal Plus, the satellite television group, owns Paris St Germain — which is made up of not only a football club but also a rugby and basketball team — while Pathé, which has a stake in BSkyB, controls Lyon. By sheer coincidence, Canal Plus has the rights to pay-per-view football in France.

And it is not just in France that media companies and football clubs share owners. Silvio Berlusconi, who owns Italy's leading commercial television company, has owned AC Milan for more than a decade. No one in Italy has complained about this as Berlusconi has bankrolled Milan's purchase of almost every top player in Europe, from Marco van Basten to Andrei Shevchenko, Dynamo Kiev's £20 million star striker.

Earlier this week, at the Football Forum conference in Zurich, Umberto Gandi, Milan's managing director, explained that Berlusconi views Milan as a part of his entertainment empire. "It is like we are putting on a film each week," he said. "We want the best actors for the show. The supporters can view it in different ways. They can go to the San Siro (Milan's ground), which is like going to the cinema. They can watch it on pay-per-view TV or they can buy videos of the game for their memories." Milan is in the group of teams that has struck pay-per-view deals with Tele Plus, a subsidiary of Canal Plus.

A hundred miles to the south of Milan, Fiorentina, another top team, is controlled by the Cecchi Gori group. And what does Cecchi Gori do? Yes, television and publishing. Indeed Cecchi Gori yesterday announced that it is joining with The News Corporation, the ultimate parent company of the The Times and 40 per cent shareholder in BSkyB, and four top football teams — Lazio, Roma, Parma and, of course, Fiorentina — to take control of Stream, Telecom Italia's pay-per-view rival to Tele Plus. News Corp will have 35 per cent of this venture, while Cecchi Gori will have 18 per cent directly and 3 per cent through Fiorentina. In this case not only are the media companies owning the teams, but the teams are also owning the media companies.

In Germany, the structure of football clubs in the past has not really lent itself to ownership by media companies. Most clubs are still mutual organisations but, as our own building societies have proved, mutuality is not always sure to last.

This is certainly the case in Germany, where there is a dispute about the pay-per-view televising of matches. The dispute is essentially about the number of games that will be shown for free and how much the Kirsch organisation, which is the main player, is willing to pay for games. In Germany, as in the UK, the debate centres on whether the teams should strike deals as a league or go it alone. Bayern Munich, the leaders of the Bundesliga and the country's largest club, wants to strike its own deal.

No German teams are owned by media groups but CLT-UFA has pumped quite a bit of money into Borussia Dortmund, which won the European Cup two years ago, while Bayer Leverkusen, which is controlled by the Bayer chemical company, is close to striking a deal with a "strategic partner". You can bet your bottom dollar it will be a media company.

□ ANOTHER interesting development in Europe is the near bankruptcy of the Swiss league, where quite a few of the top teams are close to insolvency thanks to overpaying for overrated players. A director of FC Lausanne complained to me about its debts of SwFr2.5 million (about £1 million).

This is as nothing to the £22 million owed by Crystal Palace, I replied. Indeed, £1 million is how much Simon Patterson, the administrator from Moore Stephens Booth White, now running Palace, has been given to keep the club running over the summer.

Many football experts wonder whether this is enough. Buchler Phillips, the firm originally asked to be adminstrators, said it would have to have £1.6 million to keep the club alive.

The cash is needed because Palace will have no income between mid-May and mid-August, apart from advance payments for season tickets.

However, this season ticket money cannot be touched by the administrators until it has agreed a deal with its £8 millon worth of "football creditors" — mainly teams owed transfer fees — because if it does not pay those debts then the Football League will not allow it to play next season.

Europe's pensions time bomb would send our taxes sky-high

Labour could end up paying to keep European pensioners in comfort, warns **Charles Dumas**



Alistair Darling is negotiating the political minefield of Britain's pensions reform, but the real danger is from Europe

Few subjects turn off younger readers faster than pensions, but a low boredom threshold could be lethally expensive.

People who are now young will be generating the income that will pay for the coming pensions explosion. How it is financed will be crucially important. In this country, the political minefield of pension reform has effectively seen Harriet Harman and Frank Field — who was charged with "thinking the unthinkable" — lose their place in the Labour Government. Alistair Darling, the nearest thing new Labour has to a "safe pair of hands", is currently wrestling with the problem. But the real danger on pensions is not from within the UK — it is from Europe.

Current political developments in Europe mean that the pensions time bomb is more likely than ever to mean higher taxation. If Britain is not vigilant, our taxpayers will be co-opted into funding the much more lavish government-financed schemes on the Continent, where private pensions are insignificant.

If Britain adopts the euro, and joins economic and monetary union, vigilance will not be enough. Majority voting on taxes within euroland, with an end to the veto on tax issues, is a racing certainty before the time bomb goes off — which will be a decade or more into the next century.

The ageing of the population will raise the burden of all public pension schemes in Europe over the next 30 years. By 2030, the cost will be about half as much again as a percentage of national income, compared with now. The difference is that in Britain our public pensions are some 7 to 8 per cent of total output, but in Germany, France and Italy the ratio is two and a half times this, about 17 per cent. By contrast, British private pension schemes have accumulated funds equal to three quarters of national output. In Germany this ratio is 15 per cent, in France 6 per cent, and in Italy just 3 per cent.

Public pension costs will rise by a manageable 4 per cent of output in Britain by 2030, with most of the increase in the past ten years. This is well within the range of variance of government spending over long periods. On the Continent, the corresponding increase in public pensions spending will be about 10 per cent of total output.

Not only is this a huge increase, but it will be triggered earlier, and is added to levels of public spending (and taxes) that are already far higher than here. Against Britain's public spending ratio of 40 per cent of total output, Germany's is 46 per cent, Italy's 50 per cent and France's 54 per cent.

Public pensions are paid from general taxation on a current basis, not out of invested funds accumulated over the working life of the pensioner. The chief source of increased pensions in Britain will be payouts from privately accumulated funds. On the Continent, the alternatives are four: reducing entitlements, meaning people well into their working careers would be forced to accumulate the difference through higher savings; government borrowing; reducing spending on other government programmes; and higher taxes.

The first of these was largely adopted in Britain over the past 20 years, at a time when the more benign age distribution of the population made it easier. The "baby-boomers" were about 30 years old in 1980 — now they are 50.

Tentative efforts to curb entitlements were begun on the Continent in the Nineties, but not much progress was made. The advent of socialist/social democrat Governments in Germany, France and Italy over the past two years has eliminated the pressure for reform. As well as disliking such a politically explosive issue, they believe public pension provision is right. They also have no great enthusiasm for the "Anglo-Saxon" shareholder capitalism that is necessary where the general public relies heavily on privately funded pensions.

PROJECTED PENSION COSTS 1990–2030

% of GDP: 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30

1990 2000 2010 2020 2030

Germany France UK Italy

Source: European Commision DGII

In theory, the Stability and Growth Pact rules out government borrowing as a solution to increased pension provision — it limits government deficits to 3 per cent of national output. In practice, the poor economic growth prospects in euroland will probably lead to some breaches of this limit. But we can assume that governments will continue their attempts to restrain deficits and borrowing.

Can other government programmes be cut back? Quite the contrary. Ageing populations will increase the burden of public health programmes. The current Balkan war, with Russia's westernisation drive seriously undermined, almost certainly means that the substantial "peace dividend" of the past ten years will be partly clawed back. The French and Italian Governments are getting together to propose Europe-wide infrastructure programmes as a solution to their excessive unemployment: what else is a socialist government elected for?

That leaves higher taxes. But this is the ultimate "stealth tax", as the problem does not get too much larger for ten years or so. Meanwhile, the avowedly federalist euroland governments will return again and again to the issue of tax harmonisation. In extreme form, this would force convergence of public spending ratios as well. After all, it could be argued, is it not unfair competition for the British economy to be operating with a lower burden of public spending than our continental partners?

The route to majority voting on euroland tax issues is clear. The majority of continental politicians are explicitly committed to establishing a federal European state. If Britain accepts this, our taxes will be increasing for the remainder of most of our lifetimes.

The logical follow-up would be to adopt continental public pensions schemes as well — then at least our taxes would go to British pensioners. So with the pensions time bomb fuse already lit, EMU entry would mean "Goodbye new Labour, welcome back old socialists."

Charles Dumas is head of the international service at Lombard Street Research

SB shareholders kept purring by 'fat cat' Leschly

They came not to bury Jan Leschly, but to praise him. There were more wisecracks than brickbats for SmithKline Beecham's £80 million man at yesterday's annual meeting of the drug company's shareholders. Yes, there were questions about Mr Leschly's extremely generous pay and incentives package, and one shareholder made reference to "greedy bastards", the infamous condemnation of fat cats made by union leader John Edmonds.

But the questions lacked venom, and most investors seemed appreciative of Mr Leschly, giving the charming Dane several rounds of applause. "I'm not bothered about the remuneration," said one. "Good luck to him."

Sir Peter Walters, chairman, accepted that "by UK standards our salary and overall remuneration is very high". But he defended the company's policy, claiming that the total remuneration of SB's senior executives "is at the mid-to-lower end of the scale when compared with the global healthcare companies that we consider our peers."

When a shareholder sarcastically asked why he and Mr Leschly were prepared to work for such modest pay, Sir Peter replied: "It's a personal sacrifice."

As widely trailed, Sir Peter said SB's annual review of its remuneration structure would take into consideration the views of UK shareholders when seeking to ensure it remains globally competitive. However, he also showed a slide suggesting that Mr Leschly was only the eighth-best-paid chief executive in his industry last year, far behind US companies such as Bristol-Myers Squibb and Pfizer. Glaxo Wellcome and Sir Richard Sykes was in 12th place.

Sir Peter warned shareholders not to believe everything in the papers about executive pay. He said his own package was reported to be £755,000 — but this included the 56,000 shares he bought during his ten years with the company. "The journalist might as well have put in the value of my house," said Sir Peter.

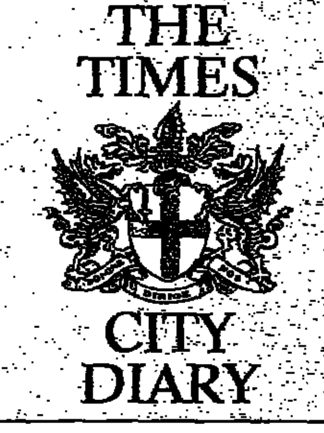
The £93 million total initially placed on Mr Leschly's benefits from SB included his £11 million shareholding. Mr Leschly was paid £1.9 million in 1998, less than in 1997. The balance of £80 million is made up of a plethora of option and incentive share schemes.

Most of the SB shareholders at the meeting can afford to take a relaxed view of rewards on this scale. As Sir Peter pointed out, SB shares have risen by an average of 41 per cent a year since Mr Leschly and his team took over in 1994.

Sir Peter ducked the most pointed questions he received, from Stuart Bell of PIRC, the pension fund advisers. He said SB had so far decided it was "not appropriate" to put the report of its remuneration committee to a separate vote.

And he was reduced to incoherence when asked why executive incentives were awarded against performance against the relatively undemanding standards of the FTSE 100, rather than the much tougher benchmark set by international drug companies, the same peers SB uses to set pay levels.

PAUL DURMAN



Lack of trust

THE trade body for the investment trust world has tied itself into anguished knots over a report from one of its members that is highly critical of a controversial new £27 million advertising campaign.

The new campaign, from the ad man who brought you "Tell Sid", has split an industry not exactly known for vicious internecine feuding. Big names such as Fleming and Foreign & Colonial are backing the ads, which should run in the autumn.

But others are worried that generic advertising might not work. Worse, you could be spending money on boosting sales of rivals.

This view has been given a fillip by a report circulating from Aberdeen Asset Managers, which claims there is not much point in merely "raising awareness" if it doesn't sell more investment trusts.

The campaign is the idea of the Association of Investment Trust Companies, whose director-general, Daniel Godfrey, at first insists that no such report exists.

I explain that I am reading it as we speak. "If that's the case, I'm disappointed."



"They're almost doing as well as Jan Leschly"

AN UNACCUSTOMED note of political correctness on the menu at the Gay Hussar, the flamboyant Hungarian restaurant in Soho.

Chicken à la Serb has been discreetly withdrawn. But I am told it is still available on request.

Church militant

BOARD members of British Aerospace already putting on the shin pads for today's annual meeting might like to know that the woman who almost single-handedly landed them in their latest spot of ethical bother will be there again. Marian Peterson, wife of a retired vicar living in Southend, first brought to the attention of the Church of England's investment authorities the fact that they would end up with a sizeable holding in BAe after the purchase of GEC's Marconi Electronics.

As a result the Church has decided to dump the two million-plus shares in BAe because of a blanket ban on investments in companies where weapons are a significant part of their business.

Peterson, who was also at last year's troubled BAe annual meeting and was one of the few protesters not thrown out by security men, is modest about her contribution.

"I suppose I set it in motion, but it was by no means single-handed," she tells me. "I'm a very small player. It was an action whose time had come."

Re-tuning

MID-LIFE crises and abrupt changes of direction are becoming contagious in the City. We've had monks and vicars. Now Philip Lambert, 39-year-old head of energy and utilities at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, is off to become a composer and concert pianist.

Lambert first tried for a career in music in his 20s but soon tired of starving in a garret and became an oil analyst instead. After 13 years he has accumulated enough capital to pursue his earlier dream.

"I want to go and see if there is another life," he tells me. This will involve composing pieces for piano "which don't sound like plagiarised Chopin".

He remains a realist, though. "If I find that my first concert is only attended by my wife, my mother and my dog, I may feel it is time to start Lambert Oil."

JAN LESCHLY, the monstrously well-rewarded chief executive of SmithKline Beecham, was keen to quote the company's share price to shareholders at yesterday's meeting. He turned to Sir Christopher Hogg, a non-executive, who happens to be chairman of Reuters.

Hogg whipped out his pager and replied "680p". "It can't be," said Leschly, correctly. "It must be 880p." Wrong big figure. An adviser admitted later: "The gadget worked perfectly. His eyesight's going."

Brand off

BERNARD ARNAULT has come a bit late to the Internet — and it shows. Arnault has been trying to get his various brand names "dot-commed" as they say in the industry, registered so no one else can use them.

Dior, Lacroix, Givenchy — all locked up solid. But one has evaded him. The state of Hawaii has nabbed www.kenzo.com, and is holding firm. It is used to advertise a range of products including, as you see, cigars.

MARTIN WALLER

city.diary@the-times.co.uk



Cigars sold by the state of Hawaii using the www.kenzo.com site

Equities extend lead

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

BANKS

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

BUILDING MATERIALS

CHEMICALS

CONSTRUCTION

DISTRIBUTORS

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GDS & TEXT

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

560	439½	Hend Strata	545			
71¼	45½	Hend TR Pac	70¾ +	1½	0.4	57.1
174½	127½	Hend Tech	173 +	3½		
229½	161½	Herald†	229 +	4	0.4	..
119¼	106½	High Income T	107½ +	½	6.0	13.8
169½	123½	HS UK Smll	168 +	1	2.1	..
203	185½	Inv Cap	196¾ -	¼	3.0	33.3
47½	34	Int Biotech	45 +	½	..	
62¼	40¼	INVESCO Asia	61¾ +	¼	1.1	58.2
158½	113	INVESCO Eng Int	158½ +	2	1.1	
66½	29¼	INVESCO Jap Dis	65½ +	1		..
33¼	23¼	INVESCO Tokyo	32 +	½		..
167¼	87¼	JF Fledg Jap	186½ +	1¼		
244	198	J Fry Euro U	227 -	½	2.6	33.1
159½	141½	J Fry UB	147 +	1	3.8	22.1
92½	84½	J Fry Ubl Inc	90	..	6.2	13.5
147½	135½	Jupiter Ex Inc	146¾ +	2	5.4	18.4
42½	35	Jupiter Ex IncW	42½ +	1		.
150½	140½	Jupiter Intl Gmf	141½ +	½	3.0	..
845	713	Jupiter Prima	825 -	5	0.8	
193	175½	Kiwi End	192½			
297	176¼	Korea Euro	297 +	24¼	..	
1242½	1026	Law Debenture	1241 +	8½	2.5	33.8
129½	115½	Ldn Oil Opp	129	..	..	
136	108½	Lloyds Sm Cap	134	..	..	
17¼	13	Lloyds Sm Dwt	14¼	.		31

LEISURE & HOTELS

98½	70	Newcastle Utd	73 -	1½	2.4	36.4
165	101½	Northern†	165 +	½	3.5	18.2
21	15½	Queensborough	16?		2.8	
34	18½	Queens Moat	34			6.6
300	181	Rank Grp†	261 +	1	7.0	11.3
32½	24½	Regal Hotel	26½	.	5.9	6.0
67½	51½	Ryan Hotels IE	62½	.	3.8	13.6
23	15½	Sheffield United	16½			
137½	107½	Sinclair (Wm)†	124½ +	1	7.5	10.3
43½	33½	Southampton	35½		2.8	3.8
178	99	Stakis	175½ +	½	1.7	21.8
317½	253	Stanley Leisure	254 +	½	1.9	14.5
44	2	Landen	4½ +	¼		
346	346	Tangent#	346		1.1	39.4
192½	117	Thistle Hotels†	178½	...	2.5	15.0
188½	138	Thomson Travel†	154 -	½	1.9	16.4
86½	63	Tottenham Hot	63		0.4	.
67	52	Wakefield	53 -	1	0.5	12.3
386½	304½	Wembley	351½ +	1½	1.6	11.1
132½	107½	Zetters Gp	125 +	2½	7.6	8.2

MEDIA

MINING

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

PHARMACEUTICALS

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

LONGS (over 15 years)

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

PRINTING & PAPER

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

SUPPORT SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TRANSPORT

WATER

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
ACM INVESTMENTS LTD				
0171 470 0100				
Short Dtd Gilt	138.30	140.80		...
US Govt Bd (ISR)	0.8495	0.8584	+ 0.02	
Gilt Income	56.15	58.01†	- 0.01	5.40
Gilt Growth	100.60	102.30	- 0.10	
Sterling Bond	56.10	57.11	- 0.07	5.30

[illegible]

[illegible]

On the 40th anniversary of the Marketing Society, **Alan Mitchell** looks at the potential of e-commerce . . .

Now selling on a screen near you

The marketing profession has ridden many waves of technological change, from the printing press to radio and television. But the revolution represented by satellite communications, cable, digital television and the Internet is unleashing faster changes than anything marketers have wrestled with in the past 50 years.

Faced with proliferating ways of reaching their target audiences, marketers face a struggle to get across the right message to the right people at the right time at an acceptable cost. Efficiency pressures are triggering sometimes bitter debates about media inflation, marketing effectiveness and accountability, and the role of marketing departments. Experiments are under way in areas such as loyalty marketing, relationship and one-to-one marketing, umbrella and corporate branding.

Yet these debates and initiatives could still be too little, too late, if new breeds of business spawned by the information revolution take root. Most of the new business beasts are so novel that there is little agreed terminology to describe them. They include "*disintermediators*", such as Dell Computers, which deal directly with customers; "navigators", which help customers to search for the best choice of products and services; and "demand aggregators", which organise consumers to bargain as a single unit with suppliers over the price.

They also include auctioneers such as e-Bay, which put consumers directly in touch with each other; "infomediaries", which build up customer databases and use the information to broker matches between buyer and seller; and entities such as Buy.com, which uses products to sell advertising instead of using advertising to sell products — by selling products at below cost. Buy.com attracts millions of bargain hungers to its website, then makes its money by selling advertising to reach them.

These new breeds of business may be confined to the ether of e-commerce, but their impact on traditional markets is direct.

As Martin Sorrell, chief executive of WPP, the world's second-biggest marketing services company, told the Incorporated Society of British Advertisers: "They are venal. They ignore classic profitability models, and it is almost impossible to compete against them in traditional ways. We are talking about fundamental changes in the way companies go about doing things."

Philip Evans, a senior vice-president in the Boston Consulting Group, echoes Mr Sorrell. "People are applying to this new medium the same kind of mental framework they have been using for 50 years. That is wrong."

Mr Evans says the new forms of information-led business do three new things. They separate the processing of information about products from the products themselves, helping people to search for, find and evaluate products independently of those who have a vested interest in selling them. Secondly, they provide consumers with as much information about their sellers as marketers traditionally accumulate about their customers. "This is making for a much more level playing field," he says in his forthcoming book, *Blown to Bits*. Thirdly, they are creating a new dimension of competition between brands — a race for customer affiliation based on who most effectively acts in the customer's interests.

> Reverse marketing will require dramatic mindset shifts

John Hagel, a McKinsey consultant and the author of *Net Worth*, says this "reverse marketing" will involve companies in "one of the most challenging mindset shifts they can go through". He draws a parallel with Gutenberg, who invented the printing press to help to spread the Bible to the masses, but ended up helping to spread heresy instead.

Likewise, "most companies see e-commerce as a way of gaining advantage relative to customers and other companies. But they are unleashing a set of forces that will dramatically strengthen customers' ability to deal with vendors."

Today's big brands are "product or vendor-centric brands — statements about the quality or attributes of the product or vendor". In future "the most powerful brands will be customer-centric" — meaning that the brandholder will know the individual customer better, and use this knowledge to be "the customer's advocate, or agent".

If reverse marketers establish themselves, the age-old marketing goal of aligning companies' offerings to changing customer requirements will become doubly critical. Yet Marketing Society research suggests that in half of UK plc the customer's voice is "rarely, if ever, represented around the boardroom table". Stephen Callender, the society's chairman, finds thisdisturbing; it is the profession's job, he says, to keep its finger on the customer's pulse. When companies fail to do so, there are "many opportunities for things to go wrong".

BSKYB/JON HALL



With its interactive services, digital television will put viewers and consumers in the driving seat, but will present advertisers with a fragmented market

BUYCOMP BUYSOFT | BUYBOOKS | BUYVIDEOS | BUYGAMES
BUYCOMP.COM
The Internet Computer Superstore
We Now Sell DVDs For Only $14.99
Go To BuyComp Top 25 Products
BuyComp.com Prefers Visa
SYMANTEC.
Choose Categories

Website Buy.com uses products to sell advertising rather than advertising to sell products

Coming soon: video recorder that picks the programmes

It may not have revolutionised the British media just yet, but after years of planning the digital revolution is under way.

By now there are more than 500,000 homes in the UK watching multichannel digital television in some form.

Although there may be an element of rounding up numbers in the earlier days, most analysts believe that digital has made a promising start.

After four months on air, SkyDigital, offering more than 100 channels of digital broadcasting, including 40 audio channels, has attracted 350,000 subscribers. Most were existing Sky subscribers who had been persuaded to up grade their systems to digital, but 120,000 were new converts to multichannel television.

Sky, in which News International — the parent group of *The Times* — has a 40 per cent stake, was so pleased by the reception that it upgraded its forecasts to one million digital subscribers by October, the end of the first year on air.

Earlier this month ONdigital, the main commercial digital terrestrial television service, announced its first numbers — 110,000 subscribers in the four and a half months on air. It has run an effective marketing campaign emphasising the main advantage of digital terrestrial — extra choice through the existing aerial.

Later this year the three big cable companies — NTL, Cable & Wireless Communications and Telewest — will all start offering digital services to their three million-plus subscribers.

One of the great advantages the cable companies will have is the ability to offer high-speed cable modems to connect their subscribers to the Internet. Video-on-demand — the ability to choose and view instantly the movie of your choice, chosen from a large library — may not be far behind.

The move to digital terrestrial will also be boosted this year by the increasing number of television sets coming on the market with the necessary electronics already installed — some of them priced as low as £500.

Early indications show that viewers are very positive about their new digital services and like the menu-driven way of selecting channels and programmes to watch.

But more channels and more choice is only one aspect of the digital revolution. Later this year more and more interactive services will be introduced, allowing home shopping, home banking and sending and receiving e-mails through the television set.

It signposts a move towards an on-demand world where viewers and consumers will be in the driving seat. Open, a joint venture linking BSkyB, BT, Matsushita and Midland Bank, will launch its main virtual shopping centres in the autumn. Even before the "doors" are open City analysts are suggesting that the business could be worth as much as £1.4 billion — based on conservative assumptions.

Such developments will open up fresh opportunities for the advertising and marketing community, although it will be difficult to find the right balance between the new niche and the old mass media market as the audience fragments across a larger and larger number of channels.

Although advertisers will have to be quick to follow viewers with their messages, the likelihood is that most people will continue to watch the main terrestrial channels most of the time.

Yet before one set of technological changes has even been absorbed, others are set to arrive that could affect both the way we view, what we view and how advertisers deploy their ads. Hitachi is about to launch a video recorder that recognises and cuts out advertising when programmes are recorded. The machine automatically pauses when the advertisements come on and resumes recording when they are over.

Then companies such as Tivo and Replay are about to launch systems in America that can digitally capture, store and index up to 40 hours of television favourites. The new recording devices can recognise viewing patterns and if *Men Behaving Badly* is a regularly viewed programme the machine will automatically record it in future.

The new devices are expected to retail at about £400 and, like digital television, will have an electronic programme guide. This will enable viewers to choose immediately the genre of programmes — such as comedy or sport — in which they are most interested.

John Hendricks, the founder and chairman of Discovery Communications, told the Royal Television Society last week that broadcasters would soon have the power to offer a new experience — "telepresence". IPIX, a new 360-degree, all-directional photographic system, is already producing still images. Mr Hendricks believes that 360-degree digital moving pictures are less than two years away.

And all these developments are in addition to the speed of change in the Internet which will increasingly compete with television for the time and attention of users.

RAYMOND SNODDY

Free services blow Net wide open

The scrapping of charges for Internet delivery has been a winner, says **Michael Kavanagh**

The launch of Freeserve, the free Internet access service, by Dixons Store Group last September, continues to cause aftershocks throughout Britain's Internet sector.

In a matter of weeks the service established itself as Britain's leading Internet service provider (ISP), simply by scrapping the £10 to £15 monthly subscription charges that were then common in the sector. Freeserve now claims to have 1.5 million users and has transformed Dixons into a stock market darling, turning on its head the "battle for eyeballs" among Britain's online media players.

Now the paid-for ISP brand *Virgin Net* has scrapped charges, along with BT ClickFree, originally launched as a premium-rate service.

This month *The Sun* newspaper (which has the same parent company as *The Times*) launched its free ISP CurrantBun.com in its typically ebullient manner, while the Mirror Group has used its own promotional power to launch its "me-too" free ISP. This month MSN, the Microsoft-owned ISP, admitted that its subscriber base has dropped to 125,000 from 150,000 in January in the face of the onslaught by free ISPs. Industry analysts and Internet users are now wondering for how long AOL, previously the UK's leading online service provider, can hold its nerve and continue subscription charges.

The real battle, says Mark Danby, the general manager of Freeserve, is over who can establish themselves among a small number of operators expected to dominate the online audience — and consequently the fast-growing advertising and online retailing revenues in the UK market.

Charlie Dobres, the general secretary of the Internet Advertising Bureau UK, says: "We were already seeing rapid growth in the UK online audience, but there is no doubt that it has been given a big boost by the arrival of free ISPs."

The leading UK "portal" site, Yahoo! (www.yahoo.co.uk), Britain's busiest website, has also been drawn into promoting its own free ISP backed by BT, to try to protect its existing status as the top provider of UK eyeballs online. The commercial imperative of remaining one of the Web's leading destinations was demonstrated in January by the $6.7 billion takeover of Yahoo! arch-rival Excite by the American telecom group @home.

Rob Lawson, the associate director at NOP, the market research company, confirms that the growth of Internet access is beginning to affect retailing habits. NOP estimates that 1.3 million people shopped online in the second half of 1998, from among the 10.6 million people who used the Internet at home or work last year.

Richard Wheaton, the director of new media at the Carat ad agency, says that even if companies are not selling products via the Web, all marketing-driven companies should have a "digital strategy". People are increasingly consulting the Web before making purchases for more expensive and bulky items such as cars at traditional retail outlets, says Mr Wheaton, even if they are not buying online.

The low-cost airline easyJet is among those companies that have successfully grabbed the medium by the throat. This month easyJet announced that it had sold nearly 300,000 seats via its online booking services and that the Net now accounts for a quarter of all ticket sales. It expects the proportion of Net sales to grow to 30 per cent by the end of this year, and perhaps as high as 60 per cent by the end of next year, as consumer access to the World Wide Web becomes more pervasive.

... and the challenge for companies in the new millennium: how to win and retain the hearts and minds of customers



The stuff of marketing legend: the quirky Tango commercials break all the rules, but have paid off in increased sales



Coffee break: today's consumers are more demanding — they know what they want and they are prepared to pay for it

Make marketing a state of mind

The past few years have not been kind to marketing. Though it flourished during the *heady days of the 1980s, the* early 1990s saw marketing come under fire in a barrage of studies and surveys cataloguing the profession's supposed deficiencies.

Marketers were seen as arrogant, short-term players, who blithely ignored the realities of *the bottom* line.

Then, a year ago, the first signs that marketing could be making a comeback appeared. KPMG Management Consulting produced a report based on a survey of those companies that had been successful in growing shareholder value. The findings were unequivocal: marketing was shown to *be regarded as the key to competitiveness and long-term* growth. It was viewed as a business-wide orientation, a means of getting the whole organisation focused on meeting customer needs rather than building larger marketing departments.

And this is the message that *those banging the marketing* drum in UK plc are trying to put across: that marketing has to become a state of mind as well as a set of functional skills. Customer focus from the boardroom down is what counts. And good marketers should be proving their worth by leading the charge.

Sir Michael Perry, the chairman of Centrica and formerly of Unilever, says: "One of Britain's greatest problems in the past few years has been that we have not focused as tightly as we should have on customers.

"It might sound trite, but winning customer preference should be at the heart of every business. And that's not just *about flogging things. It's* about the whole basis on which products and services are put together, and how to beat the competition."

Sir Michael is also the chairman of the Marketing Council, *set up under the* auspices of Michael Heseltine when he was President of the Board of Trade. For the past few years it has been using what Sir *Michael calls* "every conceivable kind of platform" to make board directors appreciate the importance of customer focus.

Focused: Sir Michael

One concept it has developed is that of pan-company marketing, or *making everyone focus* on customers. "Successful companies such as Unipart and Tesco have that philosophy right through their business," says Sir Michael. "It is an attitude of mind that starts with the chief executive."

What is important in this de*bate is to define* what marketing means, says Tim Ambler. A senior fellow at London Business School, he is working with the Marketing Council to develop robust measures for marketing at all levels.

At the very *top*, marketing is what the company *does*. "Every company in the world has to make a turnover and *that's how* you do it," he *says. Level two is* what the marketing specialist does in terms of functional skills. Then there is the marketing budget, *which is about* promotion. In the field of promotion, for example, the strange ads for the soft drink Tango have become the stuff of marketing legend. Not only has *their quirkiness paid off* creatively and generated acres of headlines, but they have paid off in sales. That is because the owner of Tango, Britvic, let its ad agency, HHCL & Partners, throw away the rule book about how to advertise soft drinks. When it does work as it has with Tango it is marketing at its best.

Key role: Callender

Mr Ambler does see signs of boards beginning to take marketing *seriously*, although there is still some way to go. Research from the Marketing Society on how well boards listen to their customers makes dire reading. When asked whether the marketing func*tion was specifically represent*ed on the main board or the most senior board in the UK, 68 per cent said yes.

However, the bigger they are, the less chance for marketing: only 57 per cent of *companies with* sales in excess of £1 billion had marketing on the board.

Fewer than a third believed that the opinion of the customer *was implemented* at board level; more than 40 per cent said it was done rarely or not at all. This does not surprise Stephen Callender, the chairman of the Marketing Society and a partner in the marketing *communications* agency Black Cat.

He points to an analysis of FTSE chief executives carried out by *Management Today*, which showed that only 12 of the top 100 have marketing in their background.

The Marketing Society, 40 *years old this year and with* 3,600 senior marketers as members, wants to change that. It is becoming more active in championing marketing excellence, as well as carrying out its more traditional *role of generating* enthusiasm and interest among members for its wide range of events and programmes.

"We are keen to establish marketing *as one of the* key professions and disciplines that make business successful," says Mr Callender. "We do not feel *it is recognised as* being as impor*tant as it is.*"

"If the Government started to promote marketing to a greater degree, then business would do something about it. *Promote marketing, boost* innovation, and so by definition grow business success, which affects employment. It all fits together."

LAURA MAZUR

Customers out to buy time and pleasure

Get closer to your customer. This mantra of modern marketing is proving ever more difficult to *put into action as new* technologies threaten to turn traditional relationships between companies and customers upside down.

Consumers are responding to marketers' escalating blan*dishments* by *making them*selves more elusive. Established classifications based on age, sex, class and income are losing their power as shoppers increasingly assert their own identity.

*We are, the Future Founda*tion suggests in new research for First Direct, moving towards an "I" society, where consumers focus on "expressing individuality, being independent, both mentally and materially, and on finding new forms of fulfilment and sources of identi*ty". They will simply refuse to* fit into neat marketing boxes.

Indeed, among the trend-setting Tao Generation — as research group Synergy calls them — it has become positively cool to be contradictory. "Their overwhelming attitude is 'I just am who I am'," says *Pat Dade, a Synergy consult*ant. "Living with contradictions and actually welcoming new contradictions — that is where the fun is."

Researchers are finding this contradictory consumer everywhere. Marketing services giant Omnicom, for example, sees *current consumer trends* as a series of "paradoxes".

The populations of societies may be ageing, but eternal youth is the watchword even among "greys", notes Ira Matathia, an Omnicom futurist. Likewise, "going forward, we'll see the most effective market*ing strategies meld the essence* of nostalgia with the positive elements of futurism", she says.

Similar contradictions have been identified by the Henley Centre in its Planning for Consumer Change project. In a world ren*dered coldly rational by the tri*umph of industry and science, consumers are searching for "re-enchantment", observes Stokes Jones, a Henley researcher.

Consumers want to put some *magic back into their lives.* Mr Jones believes people are yearning for a sense of community and for organisations and brands they can really trust. But that does not stop human beings being increasingly individualistic in their behaviour, and coldly instrumental in *their dealings with companies.*

Product quality and service levels may be improving, Mr Jones says, but consumers complain more – calculating that the more they complain, the more they get. Increasingly, *their attitude towards market*ers is: "If you want my attention, or information about me, you will have to pay me in some way for it."

Another contradictory trend is what Mr Jones calls "hedge *hedonism*". *With declining job* security and a retreating welfare state, we are increasingly aware that we have to provide for our own future and we are building nest eggs "just in case". Yet often we make these provisions to shove worrying aside and get on with the important task at hand – having fun. We tend to overestimate *homo economicus (man the ra*tional benefit-calculating machine) and underestimate *homo ludens* (man the player), Mr Jones says. "People need to enjoy themselves."

Perhaps the most important trend of all is consumers' increasing tendency to define *value for money in terms of* value for time.

If we can afford it, we are increasingly paying other people to do boring, unrewarding chores such as washing, cleaning and cooking. Just look at the success of home-delivery pizza shops and takeaways. We are also increasingly prepared to pay for rewarding experiences, no matter how trivial they *may seem. For example*, Mr Jones attributes the explosive growth of coffee houses such as the Seattle Coffee Company (and Starbucks) to the mix of "experiences" they offer: a chance to relax and to seize the chance to become a coffee connoisseur.

Researchers such as Joseph Pine, a consultant at Strategic Horizons, argue that we are entering a new economic era, the experience economy, in which the key to marketing success lies increasingly in a company's ability to stage experiences for which customers are prepared to pay.

He says: "*The history of eco*nomic progress consists of charging for what once was free. Instead of relying on our own wherewithal to experience the new and wondrous, we will increasingly pay companies to stage experiences for us, just as we now pay for services we *once delivered ourselves*, goods we once made ourselves and commodities we once extracted ourselves."

The next step? To sell "transformations". What unites keep-fit, counselling, extreme sports, exotic holidays, new age mysticism, cosmetic surgery and a surging interest in education, Mr Pine suggests, is the search not just for experiences, but for things that change us.

Companies make products *in factories. We, increasingly, make ourselves* through the experiences we choose. Marketers could find selling "experiences" and "transformations" a huge opportunity.

ALAN MITCHELL

Inherent power to prevent abuse

Ebert v Birch and Another
Ebert v Venvil and Another

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Otton and Lord Justice Aldous

[Judgment March 30]

The High Court had an inherent jurisdiction to prevent the initiation of civil proceedings which were likely to constitute an abuse of the process of the court.

Where, therefore, a litigant had brought a series of vexatious proceedings against the same group of defendants, the High Court could grant an order prohibiting the commencement of similar proceedings without the leave of the court.

The High Court could make such an order in relation to both county court and High Court proceedings. However, it might not be appropriate for the county court to make an order prohibiting the commencement of High Court proceedings.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an application by the plaintiff, Gedaljahu Ebert, for leave to appeal against two orders made by Mr Justice Neuberger in the Chancery Division on July 7 and October 23, 1998, the effect of which, inter alia, was to prohibit him from bringing any new proceedings in the High Court or county court arising out of or concerning any matters involving or relating to or touching upon or leading to bankruptcy proceedings which had been brought against him.

In the first action the defendants were: Mr Trevor Birch, liquidator of Europride Ltd, and Midland Bank plc.

In the second action, they were: Ms Joan Venvil, the plaintiff's trustee in bankruptcy and Mr Ralph Wolff, the bankruptcy petitioner. Mr J. Rabinowicz, solicitor, was given leave to intervene.

Mr Andrew Mitchell for the bank; Mr Paul Emerson for Ms Venvil; Mr Robert Hantusch for Mr Wolff; Mr Gilead Cooper for Mr Rabinowicz; Mr Ian Burnett, QC, as amicus curiae; the plaintiff in person; the liquidator did not appear and was not represented.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the case raised a *point of considerable importance* relating to the extent of the inherent jurisdiction of the Supreme Court to prevent the initiation of civil proceedings which were likely to constitute an abuse of the process of the court.

It was not in dispute that the court had an inherent jurisdiction to prevent further applications being made without the leave of the court in existing proceedings which were already before the court: see *Grepe v Loam* ((1887) 37 Ch D 168).

What was in question was whether the court had jurisdiction in appropriate circumstances to make *Grepe v Loam* orders prohibiting new proceedings being commenced without the leave of the court and, if so, whether the orders could prohibit county court proceedings as well as High Court proceedings.

The facts of Mr Ebert's litigation made the need for the jurisdiction which was in issue abundantly clear. Mr Ebert by a series of vexatious proceedings had caused the parties to the proceedings to incur considerable expense which they had little, or no hope of recovering. It was clear that Mr Ebert would continue to bring such proceedings unless he was restrained from doing so.

As a result, the Attorney-General had instituted proceedings against Mr Ebert under section 42 of the Supreme Court Act 1981. Those proceedings had not yet been heard. An order under section 42 could prevent all civil and/or criminal proceedings being initiated without the leave of the High Court.

Such an order was considerably wider than the conventional *Grepe v Loam* order and the orders made by Mr Justice Neuberger. An order under section 42 was, however, subject to safeguards. The application had to be made by the Attorney-General and be heard by a Divisional Court, that is, a court consisting of at least two High Court judges.

The Attorney-General was not normally involved in the making of a *Grepe v Loam* order and not only could that order be made by a single High Court judge, it could be made in the county court.

Mr Burnett did not suggest that the existence of the statutory power to make an order prevented the court exercising its inherent jurisdiction under *Grepe v Loam*. Bearing in mind the period during which that jurisdiction had been exercised alongside the statutory jurisdiction, such a submission would have had no possible prospect of success.

Nonetheless there was force in the submission which Mr Ebert had advanced based on the existence of safeguards of an application under the statute.

Those safeguards did not, however, go to the jurisdiction to make a *Grepe v Loam* order. They served to emphasise the importance of such orders only being made when a clear case for making them had been established.

Notwithstanding the intervention of Parliament, an inherent jurisdiction remained alongside the statutory jurisdiction. That did not mean that the intervention of Parliament might not have cut down the inherent jurisdiction of the court.

If there was an application for an order of the same width as the statutory jurisdiction, the court could only appropriately deal with such an application under the statutory jurisdiction.

The inherent power to make an order was now more restricted. The question was: How much more restricted?

Mr Burnett had disputed that the court had an inherent jurisdiction to make orders in the wider form. His argument was founded upon two Commonwealth decisions: *Stewart v Auckland Transport Board* ([1951] NZLR 576) and *Commonwealth Trading Bank v Inglis* ((1974) 131 CLR 311). However, there had been considerably more authority available to their Lordships than had been available in either of those two cases.

Prior to the Vexatious Actions Act 1896 there were at least six orders made which restrained fresh proceedings. After the intervention by statute to provide a remedy, there were a number of cases in which the court had granted a wider form of restraint, including *Jandi Den Hartog BV v Sea Bird (Clean Air Fuel Systems) Ltd* ([1976] FSR 489) and *McLean Homes (North London) Ltd v Dace* ([1997] EGCS 120).

Bearing in mind the absence of full argument in those cases, their Lordships would not regard them as conclusive. They did at least show that it could not be assumed that the two Commonwealth cases should be accepted uncritically.

Their Lordships preferred to approach the issues from a standpoint of principle. Doing so, the starting point had to be the extensive nature of the inherent jurisdiction of any court to prevent its procedures being abused.

Their Lordships saw no reason why, absent the intervention of a statute cutting down the jurisdiction, that jurisdiction should apply only in relation to existing proceedings and not to vexatious proceedings which were manifestly threatened but not yet initiated.

In relation to specific anticipated proceedings both in this jurisdiction and abroad, the court could and did grant an injunction to stay the proceedings.

The ability of the court to operate in that way when the proceedings were only anticipated was no more than an example of the court being prepared to protect an applicant from anticipated damage when that damage was sufficiently imminent and serious.

The court undoubtedly had the power to stay or strike out vexatious proceedings when they were commenced under its inherent power.

Their Lordships could see no reason in principle why it should not also, in accord with the general approach to the granting of quia timet injunctions, exercise that power to prevent the serious loss that anticipated but unidentified proceedings could cause the defendants to those proceedings.

The making of an extended *Grepe v Loam* order or a *Grepe v Loam* order in its usual form did involve a serious inhibition on a prospective litigant exercising his normal rights of access to the courts. However, the extent of that interference should not be exaggerated.

First, it was only an inhibition on bringing proceedings without the leave of the court. If the proceedings were arguably meritorious leave would be forthcoming.

Second, the court would not make an order unless there were serious grounds for doing so and if there were no serious grounds, the order would be capable of being set aside on appeal.

The general approach of the courts in recent years had been not to restrict the inherent jurisdiction of the court but to adopt a broad approach where that was appropriate.

In the course of argument reference had been made to article 6 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1953) (Cmd 8969) on the right of access to the courts.

Article 6 did no more than reflect the approach of the common law indicated by Mr Justice Laws in *R v Lord Chancellor, Ex parte Witham* ([1998] QB 575). As long as the inherent power was exercised only when it was appropriate for it to be exercised, no contravention of article 6 or common law principle was involved.

If the court had jurisdiction to make an order in relation to proceedings which were anticipated but had not yet been initiated in the High Court, then their Lordships had no doubt that the High Court had power to make such an order in relation to the county court as well.

The High Court had traditionally exercised a supervisory jurisdiction in relation to the county court and although that jurisdiction was normally exercised over the county court by means of judicial review that did not mean that it was the only way the jurisdiction could be exercised.

The county court would give effect to the High Court order in the same way as it would give effect to an order made by a county court judge. There was still a High Court and county courts with separate but overlapping jurisdictions.

However, both courts were part of the same civil justice system. It would be absurd today, when there was a process of merger between the High Court and county court, if it were necessary for a separate order to be made in the county court.

While it might not be appropriate for the county court to make an order in relation to the High Court, their Lordships could see no difficulty in the High Court making an order in relation to the county court.

The orders which Mr Justice Neuberger made were ones which he had been entitled to make. It was important that any such orders should be sufficiently certain so as to enable the person who was the subject of the orders to know what he was entitled to do and what he was not entitled to do. These orders met that requirement.

Solicitors: Eversheds; Jeffrey Green Russell, Mayfair; Teacher Stern Selby; Ince & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

Explaining limitations of defence of duress to jury

Regina v Baker
Regina v Ward

Before Lord Justice Roch, Mr Justice Richards and Judge Colston, QC

[Judgment March 31]

Guidance was given on the assistance a trial judge should give when the limitations or exceptions to the defence of duress had to be considered by a jury.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, allowed the appeals of Tony Baker and Alan Ward against their convictions on July 23, 1998 at Croydon Crown Court (Judge Pullinger and a jury) of possessing a firearm while committing an offence and of robbery and ordered a retrial.

Mr John Cooper for Baker; Miss Carolyn Marsh for Ward, both assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals; Miss Amanda Pinto for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE ROCH, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that it was not disputed that on February 16, 1998, the appellants committed a robbery at the Halford Superstore in Croydon, during which an imitation pistol was used and two security bags containing the previous day's takings were taken.

The appellants' defence at trial was that they had been subject to duress. The issues that the jury had to decide were all linked to the question whether it was a case where the appellants might have been acting under duress.

Their Lordships accepted the submission that a jury were entitled to assistance from the trial judge in identifying the issues of fact which, applying the law relating to the case they were trying, arose for their decision: see *Berry v The Queen* ([1992] 2 AC 364, 386).

In the instant case, the jury had not received the assistance to which they were entitled.

In response to written questions from the jury after retirement, and after submissions by counsel, the judge repeated his original direction on the first exception to the defence of duress. He then added to that direction. Their Lordships concluded that the additions had turned his direction into a misdirection. The convictions were unsafe and were quashed.

Their Lordships considered it appropriate to make some observations on the assistance which could and should have been before the jury in the hope that that might be of assistance to the judge who would preside over the retrial.

The limitations or exceptions to the defence of duress had been developed because: "Duress must never be allowed to be the easy answer of those who can devise no other explanation of their conduct, nor of those who readily could have avoided the dominance of threats, nor of those who allow themselves to be at the disposal and under the sway of some gangster-tyrant" see *DPP for Northern Ireland v Lynch* ([1975] AC 653, 670).

Two limitations on the defence of duress had developed:

1 "A man must not voluntarily put himself in a position where he is likely to be subjected to such compulsion"; and

2 "If a person can avoid the effects of duress by escaping from the threats, without damage to himself (or to a member of his immediate family), he must do so" see *R v Sharp* ((1987) 85 Cr App R 207).

The defence of duress involved both subjective and objective elements. Thus when considering whether the compulsion to which a defendant claimed to have been subjected amounted to duress, the conduct relied on must be such that any sober person of reasonable firmness of a sort similar to the defendant would have reacted in a similar way.

Equally he could not say that he was not able to avoid the effects of duress if a reasonable person of a sort similar to the defendant in his position would have done so.

Nor could an accused be heard to say that he had not voluntarily put himself in a position where he was likely to be subjected to duress if he knew or was aware that that was what he was doing.

Where the evidence in a case raised the second limitation to the defence of duress, the direction to be given had to be worded in a way appropriate to the particular case.

In some situations the evidence might be so clear that the judge would be entitled to rule that the defence was not open to the accused, for example, where he had joined a terrorist organisation or a gang of armed robbers.

In other cases, the accused might have joined criminal groups where the question whether he had by so doing voluntarily placed himself in a position where he was aware that he was likely to be subjected to duress would be less clear and the issue would have to be left to the jury.

In another type of case the accused, although not joining a gang or organisation, might have involved himself in criminal activities which brought him into contact with other criminals in circumstances where the accused knew or was aware that if he defaulted in fulfilling his role or in discharging obligations he had assumed in relation to the other criminals he would be subjected to such compulsion. Drug dealing on a scale which was significant could be such a case.

The present case was one in which it was appropriate to leave to the jury the question whether the accused *had voluntarily put* themselves in a position where they were likely to be subjected to *duress*.

The defence of duress would not be available to an accused in that *situation if he was aware that there* was a risk of pressure by way of violence or threats of death or violence *to him or* a member of his immediate family being brought to bear upon him.

The purpose of the pressure had to be to coerce the accused into committing a criminal offence of the type for which he was being tried. If the accused had no reason to anticipate such pressure he would be entitled to rely upon duress.

The requirement for the defendant to be an active member of the group was applicable to cases where the defendant had joined a terrorist gang or criminal group and enabled a defendant to take advantage of the defence of duress where he had ceased to be a member of the gang or group: see *R v Lewis* ((1993) 96 Cr App R 412).

In the instant case the jury, having been directed on duress, could then have been directed that if they found it reasonably possible that the accused were instructed to rob the store and subjected to the compulsion they described when they gave evidence, and that a man of reasonable firmness would have yielded to such threats and carried out the robbery, then two further questions arose.

First, had the prosecution proved that the accused could have neutralised the threats by seeking the assistance of the police?

The prosecution were saying that the accused could have done so and that any reasonable person in their position would have done so. The accused were saying that the police could not have provided effective protection for themselves and their families against the men who had come to threaten them.

If the jury's answer to that question had been "Yes" the defence would not have been available. If the answer was "No" the defence would have been available subject to a second question.

Had the prosecution proved that the accused had voluntarily put themselves in a position where they were likely to be subjected to compulsion of the necessary kind to commit offences to obtain money?

If the jury answered that question "Yes" the defence of duress would not have been available to the accused. If the jury answered that question "No" then the *defence of duress would have been* available.

Solicitors: CPS, Croydon.

Costs order after discharge not a bankruptcy debt

Glenister v Rowe

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Mummery

[Judgment April 21]

A costs order made after the debtor was discharged from bankruptcy in proceedings which commenced prior to his bankruptcy was not a "*bankruptcy debt*" *within the* meaning of section 382(1)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986 and according*ly the debtor was* liable to pay the costs.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in allowing an appeal brought by the creditor, Margaret Anne Rowe, against the decision of Miss Barbara Dohmann, QC, sitting as a deputy Chancery Division judge on June 10, 1998, when she discharged the or*der of Deputy Registrar Jacques* and set aside a statutory demand for £16,531.35 which had been served on the debtor, Graham Dennis Glenister.

Section 281 of the 1986 Act provides: "... where a bankrupt is discharged, the discharge releases him from all the bankruptcy debts..."

Section 382 provides: "(1) 'Bank*ruptcy debt*', *in relation to a bank*rupt, means ... (a) any debt or liability to which he is subject at the commencement of the bankruptcy..."

Mr Jamie Riley for Mrs Rowe; Mr Mark Arnold for Mr Glenister.

LORD JUSTICE MUMMERY said that on June 4, 1985 Mrs Rowe issued proceedings against Mr Glenister and others for declaratory relief, accounts and inquiries and damages for breach of trust.

On October 5, 1990 Mr Glenister was unsuccessful in applying to the master to strike out the case for want of prosecution. On June 20, *1991 Mr Justice Millett* discharged the order of the master and struck out Mrs Rowe's claim.

On July 29, 1991 Mrs Rowe filed a notice of appeal against the order of Mr Justice Millett. On June 24, 1992 Mr Glenister was made bankrupt.

On May 11, 1994 Mrs Rowe was given leave to proceed with the appeal to the Court of Appeal. On *June 24, 1995 Mr Glenister was dis*charged from bankruptcy.

On July 25, 1995 Mrs Rowe's appeal was allowed with an order for costs against Mr Glenister up to June 8, 1992 and the costs after June 21, 1995 to be paid by Mr Glenister's trustee in bankruptcy.

On September 5, 1996 the costs were taxed. On December 3, 1997 a statutory demand was issued by Mrs Rowe's solicitors. On December 22, 1997 Mr Glenister applied *to set aside the statutory demand*.

On March 26, 1998 Deputy Registrar Jacques refused to set the statutory demand aside and authorised Mrs Rowe to present a bankruptcy petition.

On Mr Glenister's appeal, Miss Dohmann set the statutory demand aside. She held that the sum included in the statutory demand *was a contingent liability within* the meaning of section 382(1)(a) and fell to be met out of the bankrupt's estate.

Mr Riley argued that a contingent liability was a legal liability to pay money or money's worth which arose out of an existing and *binding obligation but which was* suspended on the occurrence of a future event.

Contingent debt and contingent liability were not defined in the Act.

The cases on the subject could be divided into those pre and post 1986. In the former category were *In re British Gold Fields of West Africa* ([1899] 2 Ch 7), *In re a Debtor* ([1911] 2 KB 652) and *In re Pitchford* ([1924] 2 Ch 260).

Post 1986 cases included In re Wisepark Ltd ([1994] BCC 221), *In re Eileen Davies* ([1997] BPIR 619).

Mr Riley also cited *In re William Hockley* ([1962] 1 WLR 555), *Community Development Party Ltd v Engwirda Construction Company* ((1969) 120 CLR 455) and *Federal Commissioner of Taxation v Gosstray* ([1986] VR 876).

Mr Arnold challenged the correctness of the later cases relied upon by Mr Riley arguing that they were decided per incuriam since *In re Sutherland* ([1963] AC 235) had not been cited.

In his Lordship's judgment the claim for costs in the present case *was not a contingent liability at the* date of the bankruptcy and Mrs Rowe was entitled to make the statutory demand.

The costs of legal proceedings were in the discretion of the court and until the order was made there was no obligation or liability to pay them. Once legal proceedings were commenced there was always a risk of costs.

An order for costs was a contingency which might or might not happen. The fact the order for costs created an obligation to pay was not sufficient to make a claim a "contingent liability".

Prior to the court order, there was no present or future liability. It was never certain a court would *make an order. The discretionary* nature of the judge's power in relation to costs precluded it from being a liability, contingent or otherwise.

Lord Justice Thorpe delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss agreed.

Solicitors: Stone Rowe Brewer, Twickenham; Brooke North, Holborn.

Relief not available

On Demand Information plc (in administrative receivership) and Another v Michael Gerson (Finance) plc and Another

Before Mr George Laurence, QC

[Judgment March 5]

As the essence of granting relief from forfeiture was to restore the status quo between the parties, such relief could not be granted where property leased to one of the parties could no longer be restored to its owner, as was the case when the lessor had already sold the property to a third party.

Mr George Laurence, QC, sitting as a *deputy Chancery Divi*sion judge, so held in a reserved judgment dismissing the motion for relief against forfeiture of the plaintiffs, On Demand Information plc and On Demand Information International plc, both in administrative receivership, the lessees of video and editing equipment from the defendants, *Michael Gerson (Finance) plc and* Michael Gerson (Investments) Ltd, under finance leases, and ordering that money paid into an escrow account in accordance with the order of Mr Justice Harman dated March 5, 1998 be paid out with interest to the defendants.

Mr Fidelis Oditah for the plaintiffs; *Mr David Donaldson, QC* and Mr Hugh Tomlinson for the defendants.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the plaintiffs entered into four finance leasing agreements in substantially identical terms between September 1994 and May 1995, under which video and editing equipment worth approximately £650,000 was leased from one or other, or both of the defendants, with whom legal and beneficial ownership remained at all times, for an initial period of three years.

On February 12, 1998 the plaintiffs went into administrative receivership, causing the defendants to repudiate each of the leases.

On February 20, 1998 the receivers sold the second plaintiffs' New Media Publishing division as a going concern, complete with the leased equipment.

The plaintiffs had no title to sell and had not complied with the conditions in the leases permitting them to sell as agent for the defendants.

On March 5, 1998 the plaintiffs obtained the leave of Mr Justice Harman to sell the business and pay the gross proceeds of sale of *the equipment, about £132,839* into an escrow account in the name of the plaintiffs' solicitors.

The plaintiffs admitted that the equipment could have been sold for approximately £251,617, also that the sale had cost the defendants a number of tax advantages.

Applying the tripartite test devised by Lord Wilberforce in *Shiloh Spinners Ltd v Harding* ([1973] AC 691, 723), there would have been a case for granting relief had the equipment not been sold.

Restoration of the status quo required the lessee to pay the secondary rentals and abide by the other terms of the agreement if it wished to continue to use and possess the equipment, or to comply strictly with the notice period so as to be entitled to sell as the lessors' agent. Neither possibility existed in the present case.

Solicitors: Walker Morris, Leeds; Royds Treadwell.

Licence no bar to dissolution of company

In re Wilmott Trading Ltd

Before Mr Justice Neuberger

[Judgment March 31]

There was nothing in company law, insolvency law or environmental protection law which prevented the dissolution of an insolvent company which held a waste management licence.

Mr Justice Neuberger so held in the Chancery Division when making a declaration and five direc*tions sought by Neil Henry, liqui*dator of Wilmott Trading Company Ltd. The Environment Agency were the respondents.

Mr Steven Woolf for the liquidator; Mr Rex Tedd, QC and Mr Andrew MacNab for the Environment Agency.

MR JUSTICE NEUBERGER said that Wilmott Trading Ltd was the holder of a waste management licence which permitted the storage of scrap metals and other mate*rials at a recycling facility.*

The company got into difficulties in 1997 and Mr Henry was appointed liquidator. As the company had insufficient resources to *pay its creditors, Mr Henry consid*ered that the appropriate course was for him to prepare an account of winding up in accordance with section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986 with a view to the company being dissolved pursuant to section 201(2) of that Act.

The first point that arose in relation to the application was given that the company held a waste management licence could it be said that "the company's affairs *are fully wound up" for the purpos*es of section 106, or did the continued ownership of the licence prevent the company from being dissolved?

Citing *In re London and Caledonian Marine Insurance Company* ((1879) 11 Ch D 140) with approval, his Lordship said that once the liquidator was left only with sufficient *funds to enable him to comply with* the steps stipulated by sections 106(1) and 201(2) of the 1986 Act, then the mere existence of the licence plainly *would not prevent him from saying that the compa*ny's affairs were fully wound up.

Accordingly, as a matter of pure *company law, the continued owner*ship of a licence by the company did not prevent it from being dissolved.

His Lordship then considered whether, if the company were dissolved, did the possibility that either the licence ceased to vest in anyone or became vested in the Crown prevent dissolution?

Considering the possibility that the licence vested in no one, his Lordship said that in those circum*stances it would seem to follow that* the licence effectively ceased to exist.

Following the reasoning in *In re Mineral Resources Ltd* ([1999] 1 All ER 746) it could be said that a company holding a licence could not be dissolved because that would lead to the determination of the licence in a manner precluded by section 35(11) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

*His Lordship rejected that con*tention for two reasons.

First, for reasons expressed in *Mineral Resources, there was a* strong argument based on public interest for concluding that, so long as a company had some resources which would enable it to comply with a licence, it should not be able to get rid of the licence by going into liquidation and having a liquidator disclaim the licence.

However, once such a company ceased to have any assets so that it was in practice wholly incapable of complying with the licence, there *was no good reason for the compa*ny, and therefore for the licence, to exist.

Second, in *Mineral Resources* what was being proposed by the liquidator was a specific step, the sole aim of which was to put an end to the licence by disclaiming it, a purpose in direct conflict with the provisions of section 35(11) of the 1990 Act.

In the instant case, what was proposed was a company's dissolution, which was not intended to have as its aim the determination of a licence, the determination was an incidental by product of the dissolution.

Turning to the alternative possibility, that the licence vested in the *Crown as* bona vacantia on dissolution, his Lordship said that that did not prevent the company's dissolu*tion*.

The main reason was that the only party which would be detrimentally affected *by the company* being dissolved would be the Crown. Despite being given the opportunity the Crown had *chosen to* make no representations.

In those circumstances it was not for the court to take upon *itself* to refuse to grant relief sought on the basis that it might detrimentally affect a person who had made no objections.

Second, it might be that the Crown could prevent, or at least defer, the dissolution of the company by applying under section 201(3) of the 1986 Act.

Solicitors: Bell Wright & Dallman, Gainsborough; Mr Ric Navarro, Peterborough.

Order was not made with consent

Al-Ani v Shubber

Before Lord Justice Ward and Lord *Justice Sedley*

[Judgment February 25]

In the absence of evidence of agreement between the parties an order, not in the standard consent order form, that included the words "the defendant consenting to such an order", was not a consent order.

The Court of Appeal, allowing an appeal by *the plaintiff, Dr Ab*dul-Haq Al-Ani against an interlocutory order of Mr Justice Long*more on June 17, 1998*, held that an interlocutory order made by Mr Justice Rougier on April 8, 1998, for *the production of documents, in*cluding books of account at the National Bank of Abu Dhabi, under *the Bankers Books (Evidence) Act* 1879 by the defendant, Mr Majed Naji Shubber, was not founded on consent so that Mr Justice Longmore had no jurisdiction to interfere with it.

Dr Al-Ani in person; Mr Jacob Dean for Mr Shubber; Mr Neil Vickery for the National Bank of Abu Dhabi.

LORD JUSTICE WARD said *that the issue was whether Mr Jus*tice Rougier's order was truly an order made by consent thus entitling *Mr Justice Longmore to set it aside* for mistake.

Mr Dean acknowledged that the *basis on which the matter was con*ducted before Mr Justice Longmore turned out to be built on the *edifice of a consent order*.

The order by recording "... and the defendant consenting to such *order for production ..." gave an in*dication of some consent having been given.

*But it was not drawn as a con*sent order ordinarily would be drawn, in the time-hallowed words "by consent it is ordered that..."

It was impossible to discern from the transcript of what had taken place before Mr Justice Rougier that any consent had been given to *anything at all*.

There had been no obvious understanding in the mind of the de*fendant whose first language was* not English. Confusion had been rife.

When the judge made his order recapitulating the events it had not been made with consent. The order was not a consent order.

If there was no consent then Mr Dean acknowledged that he could not require one judge of the Queen's Bench Division to impugn the judgment of another.

If there was an error made by Mr Justice Rougier, it was for the Court of Appeal to correct it, not for a judge in the court below.

Lord Justice Sedley gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Lloyd Cooper; Pettman Smith.

Corrections

In *Paragon Finance plc v Hare* (*The Times* April 1) after further argument, the judge accepted an amended statement of claim which removed all reference to conspiracy and put the case on the footing that the second and fourth defendants acted for the third defendant with the knowledge that the subsales were not to be reported when the plaintiff required them to be and therefore they could be liable for knowing receipt.

In *R v Jones; R v Nelson* (*The Times* April 21) Mr Courtenay Griffiths, QC, appeared for Nelson.

In *R v DPP, Ex parte Lee* (*The Times* April 26) the principles stated apply to cases which may be tried on indictment as well as those *which must be tried on indictment*.

FILM

Feminists riled by costume drama

THE TIMES ARTS

VISUAL ART

Conscience of the new South Africa

PAGE 37





DONALD COOPER

Prunella Scales with (from left) Steven Pacey, Nigel Terry and Timothy West in Pinter's first play, *The Birthday Party*, dismissed by the critics as "lunatic ravings" in 1958

Gibberish worth revisiting


THEATRE

Is Harold Pinter's first full-length play, finely staged by Sam Mendes at the National only five years ago, in need of yet another revival? Of course it is; and not just because we critics should be regularly reminded *that we have a duty to be humble when confronted with strange new work.* *"What this means only Mr Pinter knows, for his characters speak in* non-sequiturs, half-gibberish and lunatic ravings," wrote *The Guardian* back in 1958, summing up the general view — yet the abstruse flop is now acknowledged as one of the century's key works.

Why? The words stay the same but the play changes, depending on what is going on in the world and the spectator's mind. A shabby, messy, out-of-work pianist festers in the dullest boarding house even the British seaside has produced. *At the Piccadilly* the very roses on the wallpaper *are dying of boredom. In come* two men in suits. Without do*ing anything obviously violent* they break his spirit. They *tease, accuse, pester, sneer,* play disconcerting games — *and, lo, the next morning they* cart off a speechless but neatly dressed wreck to God knows where.

Joe Harmston, the play's latest director, does not tilt his production in any single, special direction. If you wish, you can see Timothy West's big, fake-genial Goldberg, with his preposterously curly, platinum-coloured wig, and Nigel Terry's fidgety, white-haired *McCann as krakens from the* depths of the troubled mind of *Steven Pacey's Stanley.* You can see them as importunate representatives of the society the young man has tried to escape. As Pinter himself once said: "The hierarchy, the Establishment, the socio-religious monsters arrive to effect censure and alteration upon a member of the club who has discarded responsibility."

But he has also intimated that no European who has sat in dread of a certain sort of knock on the door could fail to understand the piece. That *sound* was *much heard* in Germany in the 1930s, could well *have been repeated in Black*pool or Bournemouth in the *1940s, and may now* be resonating in dissident homes in *the Balkans. "You betray our* breed," "You betray our land," "We can sterilise you": the taunting voices are Irish and *Jewish,* as they must be, but there is still something of the ethnic cleanser in them. The revival's tiny chronological tricks — we get the original references to 1950s High Street shops, but also a glimpse of a headline about racism in a modern tabloid — surely encourage that line of thought.

I have seen *more* sinister, disturbing productions of the play. *Sudden switches of light* cannot substitute for a lack of *human intensity when mental* torture is on the agenda. Yet *the acting is mostly strong.* West and Terry catch the *nervy insecurity as* well as the determination of the tormentors; *Pacey, all matted hair* and balky body language at *first,* has the craft plausibly to gulp, sob, giggle and gibber his way to his grim apotheosis; Prunella Scales, pink hair-curlers *toppling down her fore*head, is memorably dim as a *landlady who sees and learns* nothing. Yes, it's good to see *The Birthday Party* again.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Frankly, not baffled enough

Sleuth
Richmond

Anthony Shaffer, the author of this celebrated thriller, is described in *the programme biography* as currently working on a new *play. How nice for him if it* runs as long as his first. But I *wouldn't bank on it.*

In the years since *Sleuth* first bamboozled audiences back in 1970, none of his plays has found a fraction of the same favour, unlike his screenplays — *Frenzy* for Alfred Hitchcock and *The Wicker Man* — which certainly climb to similar heights of contrivance and terror. Even the remarkable achievement of *Sleuth* (some 2,359 performances in the West End alone) looks surprising in the light of this Mobil Touring Theatre revival.

As with *The Mousetrap* there is only so much one can say about the treble-crossing plot. Peter Bowles and Michael Maloney are together on stage for the first act, but I should not like to say this is the case in the second. Bowles plays the arrogantly appalling Andrew Wyke, detective novelist of the snobbish old school that sneered at the social ignorance of policeman — "Frankly, sir, we in the Force are baffled" — who inevitably trail behind the polymathic brilliance of the amateur.

Wyke's amateur is St John Lord Merridew, seemingly a waddling barrel of lard but of course supremely gifted in the art of downgrading the professional. The ludicrous solution he comes up with in Wyke's latest novel, *The Corpse on the Tennis Court* — "Frankly, my lord, we in the Force, etc" — is *an excellent parody by Shaffer* of the insanely inventive origi*nals. The only criticism I have* to make of Andrew Leigh's su*premely cluttered set* — imagine a toyshop inside a Victori*an morgue — is that the life*-sized model of Merridew *slumped* in an armchair quite lacks the proper bulk.

Maloney plays Milo Tindle, *half-Italian and quarter-Jew*ish, in love with Wyke's wife. This low-caste creature, as Wyke sees him, needs to be taught a lesson, and in the course of the play's two acts this lesson, and others issuing from it, are duly taught.

While clearly fascinated by the games-playing mentality of detective writers, Shaffer is fiercely critical of the xenophobic, racist attitudes that could accompany it — and this anger, fuelling Milo's psychology and the looping plot of *Sleuth*, helps to make the play special: both an example and a criticism of the genre. But to those of us who remember the loops, the first half's plotting plods. Even someone new to the play, and quickly grasping that all cannot be as it seems, will chafe at the laborious preparation for the changes in mood.

. Peter Wilson's direction can't exactly be faulted, because Maloney and Bowles move interestingly around the set's two levels, and the pace quickens when the plot thickens. When the plot thins out again the lack of pace is the author's responsibility. In these areas the characters turn back into cardboard but elsewhere Maloney (though he looks as Italian as an Icelander) and Bowles inject some touches of reality.

Bowles's bitter mouth, air of condescending cruelty and *childlike hurt* are *to the pur*pose. Maloney in investigative *mode sounds* absurdly like Long John Silver with asthma, *but his cold passion* comes across as real. It is the play it*self that now seems as antique* as the originals it skewered.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Luke Clancy on the latest moves by Cork's innovative Corcadorca company

Enda's Irish pigs take flight

Sitting with a cup of tea in the yellowing café of Cork's Crawford Gallery, Enda Walsh smiles happily. At the end of a long, long development of his latest play, *the Dublin-born writer seems* excited with the results. He smiles a great *deal as he* speaks, even if there is a hint of *manic exhaustion in his* bright eyes.

There has been plenty of time for Walsh to grow tired of *Misterman*, the follow-up to his award-winning, globe-trotting *Disco Pigs*. After all, he produced his first draft of the play in an energetic rush back in 1997. Since then the script has been subject to the unique developmental techniques of Corcadorca, one of the most innovative and driven of Irish theatre companies.

Corcadorca — the name hints at an interest in the darker side of their home town — has been in existence since 1991. Founded by director Pat Kiernan, the company took on the shape it has today when Walsh joined in 1993. "Pat wanted someone who could script, a kind of lyricist for whatever he wanted to do: and that's me," says Walsh. The creative core of the outfit remains Walsh and Kiernan, with a close circle of colleagues involved in sound, lighting and design.

After a production of Walsh's *The Ginger Ale Boy*, the company became galvanised as a theatrical force. It opened a celebrated version of *Clockwork Orange* in Cork in 1991, but it was with the next show, *Disco Pigs*, that the company began to attract international attention.

The play, about two Cork 17-year-olds on the rampage through the night-time city, seemed like a long-awaited release of pressure, like an underground river of linguistic energy that had suddenly *found the surface.* Walsh's writing took the almost yodelling *cadences of everyday* Cork speech and formed them *into a private language* for his ultraviolent teenagers.

Kiernan's direction turned the urban setting into a kind of *nasty sci-fi location,* and Walsh's dialogue, bubbling *with oddly lyrical* Cork slang, compounded the sense of oth*erworldliness. The piece trav*elled to the Edinburgh Festi*val, after which* two separate casts embarked on internation*al tours. Audiences seemed* simply astonished at what *they were seeing.*

"The main thread of our work, *I suppose,* is that we are dealing with very vulnerable, *emotionally unstable people,"* says Walsh, a point underlined when the company went on to *stage* the first Irish production of Sarah Kane's *Phaedra's Love*. Now, however, they are again at work on a piece by Walsh.

After an extensive workshop *development* there was still *no* breakthrough on the casting of *Misterman*. It was a chance remark from playwright Tom Murphy that prompted Walsh to play the role himself.

The one-man show, which opened at the Granary Theatre in Cork on Monday night, tells the story of Thomas, an apparently disturbed young man with strong religious leanings, whose almost Tridentine religious fervour leads him to take a dim view of life in the imaginary village of Innisfree.

Walsh's performance is driven, sometimes crazed, but always touching. He clambers energetically over the primary coloured toytown set, writhing in Aedin Cosgrove's gelatinous lighting and at one point ranting in a shower of onstage rain. Other voices pop up in Cormac O'Connor's soundtrack which runs constantly, adding mood music, or dousing Walsh's live words in brittle electronic reverb, but for the most part the audience *listens* as the *playwright* narrates Thomas's insanity.

The *retro* leanings of *Misterman* are somewhat startling after *Disco Pigs'* slick futuristic feel, and there are hints of Pat McCabe — "but you know," says Walsh, "Pat McCabe *doesn't run the* monopoly for writing about rural Ireland. And Corcadorca's *stamp* on the traditional elements is distinctive."

That distinctive stamp will be seen in Edinburgh once again this year when *Misterman* opens at the festival. And the company plans to experiment in areas far beyond the theatre. Once *Misterman* is up and running the company *moves* on to a short film, written by Walsh, about a family that wakes one Christmas to find Santa dead under the tree, after which the company is coproducing a radio play, *Four Big Days in the Life of Dessie Banks*. Walsh is also into his fourth draft of the film version of *Disco Pigs*. Later in the year, *Bedbound*, Corcadorca's Walsh-penned co-production with London's Bush Theatre, will open.

For the new century, Corcadorca has already planned an enormous passion play for the streets of Cork next Good Friday. A strange turn for a group that made its name with a raucous drama about teenage kicks? "Well," says Walsh, "we still know a good story when we hear one."



He writes, he acts: Enda Walsh in his new play *Misterman*

■ **LISTINGS**

Joshua Bell at the Wigmore

ARTS

■ **OPERA**

King Priam in concert

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON

ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA: The ancient Chinese woodwind shakuhachi is used in this world premiere of Japanese composer Yu Kakinuma's serenade for shakuhachi, violin and strings. Paul Goodwin conducts the programme which also includes music by Ravel, Mozart and Schubert. **Barbican** (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 8pm. ⓑ

SPRING AWAKENING: Theatre 28's highly praised production of Wedekind's once banned play of schoolboy love, abortion and parental hypocrisy. Stephen Henry directs. **Tristan Bates** (0171-240 3940). Opens tonight, 8pm.

GALA RECITAL: An impressive lineup of noted singers donate their services to this evening in aid of Action for Dysphasic Adults. Felicity Lott, Anne Evans, Kathryn Harries, Donald Maxwell and Adrian Thompson sing operatic delights accompanied by the pianist Gerald Martin Moore. **St John's Smith Square.** Tickets: (0171-261 9572). Tonight, 7.30pm.

JOSHUA BELL: Returns only for the evening's recital as this hugely popular American violinist performs music by Schubert, Beethoven, Brahms, and Bartók. With the pianist Zoltán Kocsis. **Wigmore Hall** (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm. ⓑ

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra concludes its season of programmes featuring Beethoven piano concertos. Here the excellent Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes performs No 4, flanked by Tippett's Double String Concerto and Mendelssohn's evocative Scottish Symphony. Paavo Berglund conducts. **Symphony Hall** (0121-212 3333). Tonight, 7.30pm. ⓑ



Felicity Lott sings in a charity gala at St John's

CREWE: Stephen Unwin directs Don Juan, Molière's dark classic, for English Touring Theatre, with Rupert Holliday Evans as the debonair seducer. National tour starts here. **Lyceum** (01270 537333). Previews tonight, 7.30pm. Opens tomorrow, 7.30pm. ⓑ

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON: First full adaptation, by Biyi Bandele, of Aphra Behn's 1688 novel Oroonoko, the history of a West African prince sold into slavery. Gregory Doran directs. **The Other Place** (01789 295623). Opens tonight, 7pm. ⓑ

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only ◪ Some seats available □ Seats at all prices

■ **PLENTY:** Cate Blanchett plays David Hare's heroine in her years of dissent from 1943 to the 1960s. Jonathan Kent directs first major revival for 21 years. **Albery** (0171-369 1740).

□ **ALL PASSION SPENT:** New stage version of Vita Sackville-West's story of the widow who dismays her children with her revolutionary views. Alison Clarke directs for Stop Gap. **Wimbledon Studio** (0181-540 0362).

□ **THE BIRTHDAY PARTY:** Prunella Scales and Timothy West head a strong cast in Pinter's first full-length play, memorably joining comedy and menace. See review, page 35. **Piccadilly** (0171-369 1734).

◪ **CANDIDE:** Great songs in Bernstein's musical drawn from Voltaire. John Caird and Trevor Nunn direct excellent cast led by Daniel Evans, Alex Kelly and Simon Russell Beale. **Olivier** (0171-452 3000). ⓑ

■ **MAMMA MIA!:** Enjoyable musical that tells a tale of three fathers of a bride in order to steer a barmy way through a torrent of Abba hits. Phyllida Lloyd directs. **Prince Edward** (0171-447 5400).

□ **SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER:** Sheila Gish plays the venomous mother and Rachel Weisz the traumatised niece in the famous Tennessee Williams shocker. Sean Mathias directs. **Comedy** (0171-369 1731).

□ **MAKING NOISE QUIETLY:** Dominic Dromgoole's Oxford Stage Co opens a London season with Robert Holman's trilogy of short plays where strangers meet at a time of war. **Whitehall** (0171-369 1735).

◪ **THE GIN GAME:** Dorothy Tutin and Joss Ackland play old folk in a retirement home whose card-playing styles echo their sad lives. Frith Banbury directs the Pulitzer winner. **Savoy** (0171-836 8888). ⓑ

□ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Marivaux where four imprisoned adolescents meet the world and each other for the first time. **Lyric, W6** (0181-741 2311). ⓑ

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

8mm (18): Nicolas Cage, in his most magnetic role ever, plays a private eye who sifts the ugly facts surrounding a snuff movie. Director Joel Schumacher lets a devious plot ride roughshod over the deviant issues. A pleasure nonetheless.

BESIEGED (PG): Bernardo Bertolucci's touch in this strange romance between David Thewlis and Thandie Newton is exquisitely light and subtle. A vintage romance and a thrilling film.

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE (12): A corked romance with Kevin Costner and Robin Wright Penn. A tear-jerker. Take a life-jacket. Luis Mandoki directs.

THE BRYLCREEM BOYS (15): Unbelievable Irish baloney set in a Kildare prisoner-of-war camp in 1941. With Gabriel Byrne, Joe McGann and Angus MacFadyen. Terence Ryan is responsible.

OUT OF THE PRESENT (U): Russian space documentary. A seriously slippery account of endurance. Andrei Ujica directs.

DANCE WITH ME (PG): A kitsch feast for Come Dancing enthusiasts with a little Latin heartache on the side. Randa Haines directs.

MISADVENTURES OF MARGARET (15): Brian Skeet's urban romance throws Parker Posey and Jeremy Northam into a dismal, sex-obsessed potboiler. It's awful.

CURRENT

AN IDEAL HUSBAND (PG): Oliver Parker's sumptuous homage to Wilde's ever-fashionable play is hijacked by Rupert Everett's madly charming Lord Goring. With Jeremy Northam and Cate Blanchett.

HAPPINESS (18): Poisonous but gripping black comedy about dismal urban attempts to find happiness. Todd Solondz's film walks an original, edgy line between fantastic humour and ghastly habits.

PROMETHEUS (15): Tony Harrison's dense, awesome film-poem is a work of surreal genius and endless layers. Michael Feast is camp and compelling as Zeus's flunky who looks at what exactly we have achieved and destroyed with his stolen fire. It's hard work.

A CIVIL ACTION (15): Meaty courtroom drama with John Travolta and Robert Duvall in sparkling form as two sharks in a multi-million dollar case about toxic dumping. Steven Zaillian directs.

Raped or romanced?

Sheila Johnston on *Artemisia*, a controversial new film about the 'first' woman painter

The two women bend forward *intently over their task, their* sleeves rolled back as though they were kneading dough or plucking a chicken. But they are not absorbed in some comforting everyday domestic chore. Instead, the object of their attentions is a man, whom they are about to decapitate.

The Italian Baroque painting *Judith Slaying Holofernes* (1612) is acclaimed for its disturbing virtuosity — and celebrated as the work of a woman: Artemisia Gentileschi, often seen as the first successful professional female artist. Now she is the subject of a film, *Artemisia*, which opens in Britain on May 7.

Its director, Agnes Merlet, became in*terested in Gentileschi when she came* across *Judith Slaying Holofernes* while studying art history. "This subject is a recurring theme in painting, but generally Judith is depicted with a cut-off head beside her," she says. "*Here we see her in the act, and all the* suffering, blood and screaming. I was fascinated by the way it was at the same time very sensual and ferocious, yet somehow detached from the violence. And I was stunned that it was *painted by a woman. I realised Artemi*sia identified with Judith and wondered what had led her to feel this way."

Merlet's film explores the stark events behind this strange and intense vision. But it has also provoked some vi*olent reactions in its own right.* The crux of the controversy is a key event in Artemisia's life. Her father, Orazio Gentileschi, also an artist, had hired Agostino Tassi, a minor landscape painter, to give his daughter lessons in perspective. Instead of instructing her, Tassi deflowered her, and, although he had promised to marry her, it turned out he already had a wife. Orazio sued him for injury and damage, in a trial of which the transcript survives. But in the film, far from agreeing she had been raped, Artemisia insists on her love for Tassi. And it's the pain of their enforced and permanent separation which, according to Merlet's screenplay, inspired her work.

This interpretation has infuriated American art historians and feminists. When the movie opened in New York last year, Roger Ward Bissell, who is preparing the catalogue raisonné of all *known works by Artemisia, described* it as "almost perverse". Meanwhile, Gloria Steinem and Mary Garrard, the author of the first major biography of the artist, invited feminists to picket screenings, claiming the movie encour*aged stereotypes of women falling in* love with their rapists.

Merlet, however, sticks by her version. "I'm accused of not following the records of the trial to the letter, which is true. They can be read in different ways. There was indeed a violent sex act between Artemisia and Tassi, but afterwards they continued to have physical relations for nine months. There's evidence which speaks of her love for Tassi and evidence which speaks of rape. For me, it was a loving relationship."

Merlet dismisses her detractors as *dogmatic and old-fashioned women's* libbers. "Mary Garrard is really a radi*cal Seventies-style feminist: a support*er of women's struggle against men. Her view claims that Artemisia was an innocent, savagely seduced as though she knew nothing of men. But I wanted to show her not simply as a victim who was raped and then got her revenge through her work, but as a more modern figure, ahead of her time, who took charge of her life and fought alongside men, not against them, for equal rights."

Perhaps the main conclusion to be drawn from this affair is the excitability of the American political correctness lobby — and the extent to which it can be manipulated by hard-nosed business interests. Miramax, whose aggres*sive marketing tactics secured multiple* Oscars for *Shakespeare In Love* and *Life Is Beautiful*, was *Artemisia's* US distributor. It originally sold the film as a piece of arty erotica, with a poster describing its heroine — played by the young Italian actress Valentina Cervi — as "sexy" and "provocative". But the company hastily amended its campaign to cash in on the objections. "I warned Miramax that some feminists were opposed to it, and they contacted them to show them the film," Merlet says. "They encouraged the attacks."

In both France and Italy, by contrast, *Artemisia* was positively received, and its UK distributor says it does not expect a boycott here by outraged feminists. Certainly, the art histo*rian Griselda Pollock, professor at the* University of Leeds and the author of *several books on women painters,* takes a measured view. "The evidence does not support the view that this was a love story," she says. She also disagrees with the importance attached to the rape: for Pollock, the defining trauma in Artemisia's life was the early loss of her mother.

But, she adds, "I'm not against the film because she has said something interesting using the material. I admire the ways in which the director has struggled to understand how sexuality, passion and an intensity of interest in the world were important for the artist. Agnes Merlet has every right to make a compelling drama — it was never in*tended as art history.*"



Valentina Cervi stars as the 17th-century Italian painter Artemisia Gentileschi in a new film about her life

Sound and fury of war

Timeless as the Greek histories are, there are times when their momentous subject-matter seems more relevant than ever. When we are assailed daily with images of war, a treatment of the legendary Greek battles by a committed pacifist of our own age serves to focus sharply on the complex emo*tions engendered.*

Michael Tippett's opera *King Priam* was presented in concert form as part of Radio 3's *Sounding the Century* festival. With a uniformly strong cast and a powerful performance by the BBC National Orchestra and Chorus of Wales and the BBC Singers under David Atherton, this was a *reading of barely mitigated* atrocity, driving home the message of lethal acts unleashed by brutalised sensibilities.

The ubiquitous brass tuckets and drum tattoos (crisply articulated) create an ever-present air of military activity. But by placing Priam at the centre of the work, Tippett ensures that the drama is human, personal and affecting.

OPERA

King Priam
Festival Hall

Priam is seen as guilt-ridden, anxious, longing for death, and David Wilson-Johnson encompassed the whole range with impressive resources and stamina. Pushing himself to the limits — and apparently struggling with a cold — *he engaged our sympathies*, as he must, not least in his reaction to the death of his son Hector, moaning with grief over rocking lower strings.

As his adversary Achilles, Martyn Hill rose to the poignantly lyrical challenge of his lament for the homeland, *O rich-soiled land*, accompanied by the guitar of Steve Smith. Stephen Roberts and Michael George were excellent as Hector and the Old Man, while John Graham-Hall had all the youthful ardour for Paris.

On the distaff side, Susan Bullock and Susan Bickley were both formidable as Hecuba and Andromache, while Susan Parry paradoxically projected less passion as the fatefully loved Helen, though the *cool control in her hymn to the* power of love spoke eloquently of her dangerous singlemindedness. Other parts were well taken by Mary King, Neil Jenkins, Jeremy Huw Williams and Daniel Norman.

If Act I was slow to pick up, the shorter Act II, with its bellicose hard-edged sonorities, was disturbingly immediate, its end electrifying. The sense of inexorability in Act II was palpable. Atherton skilfully welding scenes and interludes in a dynamic dramatic sweep.

BARRY MILLINGTON

■ MUSIC
Pogorelich in quirky form

ARTS

■ TOMORROW
New movies reviewed

GALLERIES: William Kentridge's London show portrays the continuing turmoil of his homeland. **Richard Cork** reports

Sombre visions of Africa


Kentridge's *Consultation: 10 Doctors* (1996). Using charcoal and pastel drawings and film, the artist builds up a deeply pessimistic view of life in the old South Africa and the new

Isolated on a black wall, three lamps dangle in the darkness. They look fragile, and could easily be torn down from their slender cords. But for the moment they manage to function, spreading white splinters of light through the gloom.

Positioned in the opening room of William Kentridge's exhibition at the Serpentine, the lamps seem to act as a symbol of his hopes for art. He wants to tell the truth, not only about the traumatic history of his native South Africa but the human condition as a whole. At the same time, though, he is acutely aware of the difficulties hampering such an aim. This dual ability, to bear witness and yet concede that the ambition is thwarted at every turn, gives his work its jarring, anguished conviction.

If he had lived a few centuries ago, Kentridge might well have channelled his protesting and intensely theatrical imagination into print-making. Both Hogarth and Goya, impelled by the urge to dissect the follies of their age, became masters of graphic art. Line is the basis of Kentridge's work, too, but he uses cinematic techniques to give his draughtsmanship a leaping, constantly changing dynamism.

> ‘He never stops battering us with baleful images’

By filming his charcoal and pastel drawings, then reworking or erasing them and recording the alterations at every stage, he has developed his own style of animation. Although the influence of Beckmann, Grosz and Kollwitz gives Kentridge's films a pronounced Expressionist flavour, they end up as the inimitable product of a conscience scarred since childhood by the abomination of apartheid.

The son of a lawyer who represented victims' families after the Sharpeville massacre, when 72 black South Africans were killed by police, Kentridge undoubtedly welcomed the triumph of the ANC in 1994. But his films since that decisive election are as haunted by the past as his earlier work. At the century's end, he is in no mood to regard South Africa with complacency. His show never stops battering us with baleful images of greed, hatred and violence.

Kentridge knows he can never define the full extent of the barbarity. But that does not stop him arraigning it with all the linear power he can muster. Avoiding the pitfall of making his targets too diffuse, he concentrates on the corrosive figure of Soho Eckstein.

In the earliest film shown here, the pin-striped Soho is a property developer who builds all over Johannesburg. Kentridge calls it the "second greatest city after Paris", but the urban panorama shown here is nightmarish. It certainly unsettles Felix Teitlebaum, a dreamer whose dazed nakedness contrasts with Soho's malevolence. The two men end up fighting each other in the city's sewage pools, but there is no sign of goodness triumphing.

Felix, who resembles Kentridge himself, succeeds only in bringing love to Soho's neglected wife, and two years later she returns to her husband in another film, *Sobriety, Obesity & Growing Old*. But this work does not let Soho triumph. He watches his empire crumble, and Kentridge invades the film with apocalyptic images of disintegrating office blocks. But Felix is unable to benefit from the obliteration of wealth. He finds himself alone in the wilderness, stunned by the spectacle of a country condemned to destruction without end.

The wrenching power of these short films is cumulative. At first, Kentridge's relentless transformations may seem frenetic and hard to absorb. After a time, however, the underlying pathos becomes clear. Far from simply indulging in an orgy of annihilation, the films show how the incessant turmoil impedes any attempt to keep hold of history. Everything is continually undergoing a metamorphosis, and the ensuing confusion means that the past rapidly becomes obscured.

Felix in Exile is the film where the problem is addressed most disturbingly. Although he has fled to a room in a foreign country, Felix cannot escape his burdensome memories. The walls around him turn into the East Rand countryside clogged with corpses. However unavoidable they may seem, though, the bodies soon dissolve into the earth. So Felix, having been tortured by their presence, now finds himself bewildered by their absence.

The danger of forgetting apartheid's victims came more painfully into focus when the Truth and Reconciliation Commission began its public sessions in 1996. Kentridge must have believed that South Africa could only find a way forward by admitting to the horrors of racist hysteria. Placing Soho Eckstein in a hospital bed, still dressed in pin-stripes but suffering from a coma, he made a superb film called *History of the Main Complaint*. Breathing through an oxygen mask, the prostrate Soho is attached to a CAT scan where the inside of his body is juxtaposed with memories of atrocities he once witnessed.

We are confronted by his eyes, caught in the rear-view mirror of his car as he drives along a bleak highway past silhouetted figures beating and killing. Soho's condition appears to deteriorate as he revisits the carnage he once avoided. Only when a corpse hits his windscreen and shatters the glass does he emerge from the coma. The shock of finally confronting the reality of internecine strife restores him to health, but Kentridge refuses to present Soho's recovery in a wholly positive light. He soon reverts to his customary profit-grabbing role, as if nothing had caused him to question his old priorities after all.

This oscillation, between a crusading desire for the facts and a fear that they will not change anything, gives Kentridge's work its bite. He persists in pursuing the grimmest aspects of his country's history, and in 1997 resurrected Alfred Jarry's Ubu Roi for a harrowing film collage where drawn animation is deployed alongside documentary footage of South African upheavals. The archive material reflects the fact that Kentridge took as his starting-point evidence given to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. But the most excoriating moments in the film still come from his own drawings.

With swift, confident strokes he defines a torture room, where a bound figure is dumped upside-down in a bath, hauled out to hang in mid-air and dropped on his head. Individual pain then becomes a collective cry of torment as the camera widens out to show a whole building filled with similar chambers.

Ubu, who starts off looking merely absurd, sheds his clothes to reveal a robotic body. Resembling a camera on a tripod, it soon becomes a lethal instrument of terror. In the most mortifying scene, the tripod blows up a helpless body — not once or twice, but three times. The ever more fragmented limbs end up dispersed in the night sky, useless as evidence in any investigation. Then they vanish altogether, and only a giant eye in the clouds appears as a silent reminder of the enduring need to observe and testify.

In the most recent exhibit Kentridge's mood seems, if anything, more pessimistic. Its springboard is Monteverdi's opera *The Return of Ulysses to his Homeland*, and music plays an often alarming role in this installation. We find ourselves in a darkened arena lit only by three screens flickering on a curved wall. At the centre, a bottle of liquid rises and falls to the sound of someone's laboured breathing.

But the stream of images on the flanking screens becomes torrential. Ulysses is dying in a Johannesburg hospital. We see the surgeon's scalpel at work in blood-saturated footage. Kentridge returns to the body-scanning he explored in *History of the Main Complaint*, and moves from sonar-blurred embryos in the womb to video of a hurricane demolishing everything in its path.

Both the beginning and the end of the world are thereby evoked, but the most affecting sequences are, as ever, animated by Kentridge himself. Idyllic Greek landscapes familiar to Ulysses dissolve into a grim South African highway. Hunted figures dart in and out of the tree-lined route, their bodies made spectral by the glare of headlights. They arouse feelings of dread; but Kentridge insists that the beams stay full on, regardless of any distress they may cause.

● *William Kentridge at the Serpentine Gallery (0171-298 1515) until May 30*

AROUND THE LONDON GALLERIES

When a dealer comes up with a loan show, even one staged for charity, the question arises: what is in it for him? But when the show on offer is as splendid as **The Cabinet Picture** at Richard Green one hardly need grudge any sales which may accrue: visitors get a scholarly and illuminating guide to the whole range of Dutch and Flemish cabinet pictures from the 17th century. And in this case "museum quality" is no idle phrase: few museum shows could boast loans from the National Gallery, Dulwich Picture Gallery, the Ashmolean, the Fitzwilliam and a host of less known regional galleries.

The point of the show, curated by Christopher Wright, who is also responsible for the informative catalogue, is to draw attention to the skills of Dutch and Flemish painters from the Golden Age when working on a small scale. The Cabinet Picture was not a genre in itself, but included examples of nearly all popular genres: landscapes, still lifes, portraits, religious and mythological pictures. Rather, it was a matter of scale: the pictures were all small and easily transportable, suitable for prosperous bourgeois who did not have palace walls at their disposal. There were specialists, but many leading figures also did it: Hals (a stunning portrait that hits you from across the room), Brueghel the Elder, Ruisdael, Savery, Dou, ter Borch, Wouwerman. The show also constitutes a history of collecting taste in England, from contemporaries of the painters right up to our own day. And if, incidentally, it conveys the idea that it is not too late to start collecting, that is fine too.

33 New Bond St, W1 (0171-499 5553), Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm (Sat 12.30pm), until May 7

☐ THE phrase "museum quality" might also be applied, in a slightly different sense, to the show **Portrait of the Artist** at Wolseley Fine Art. This is completely a selling show, staged from stock by the dealer, but it is also designed to tour museums: it will go on to Pallant House in Chichester and the Victoria Art Gallery in Bath. It is built round the habit of artists of depicting themselves or their artist friends. The portraits are all in various graphic media: etching, drypoint, lithograph. Though the show begins with a Rembrandt self-portrait etching, the vast majority of the artists are 20th-century Brits. There are two from Edgar Holloway's long series of self-portraits, one from 1932, the other from 1991. James Pryde and William Nicholson, the Beggerstaff Brothers of poster fame (actually brothers-in-law), draw each other. William Roberts portrays himself, not very flatteringly, in 1924, and Stephen Conray and Anthony Green bring the tally of self-portraitists right up to date.

12 Needham Road, W11 (0171-792 2788), Tues-Fri 11am-6pm (Sat 5pm), until May 22

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament: TIM VAN EYKEN

Age: 20.

Profession: Folk singer.

Current status: He recently won BBC Radio 2's Young Folk award, a coveted prize for up and coming performers of traditional music in Britain.

What's the booty? An appearance on Radio 2's *Folk On Two* and a prime slot this summer at the Cambridge Folk Festival.

Recording activity? Debut solo album *New Boots* is already available on his own Appledore label and a follow-up album is under way. "I prefer to do it myself than go for a big advance from a major record label. That seems very poor business to me. They end up owning you."

Other claims to fame: At Wells Cathedral School he became the first person to gain a specialist music place on a folk instrument. "That was down to Roger Durston, the head of music. He's very open minded."

How did he start? "We went to all the folk festivals and camped out when I was a kid, and I started playing the penny whistle. I also play guitar and melodeon."

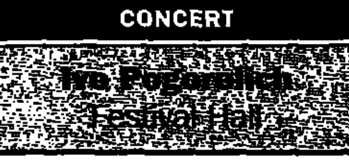
Why folk music? "I think people should be aware of their own culture and heritage. That's why I opened with a morris tune at the Young Folk final. People have got hold of Irish music and put lots of energy into it: we need to do that with English folk music, to give it some passion. I try to be as unaffected as I can when I sing. I aim to tell a story, not to show off my voice."

What's next? "I'll be gigging solo and with my band Dr Faustus and as a duo with Rob Harbron, who is a great concertina player. There are so many different combinations and winning the Young Folk award is going to open a lot of doors."

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

Chopin in a blur

CONCERT



Chopin is big enough to withstand a fair degree of reinvention. But what Ivo Pogorelich did in his name on Monday gave more than a short pause for thought. His recent recording of Chopin scherzos gives fair warning of what happens when the insights gained from idiosyncrasy are blurred by eccentricity. This all-Chopin recital revealed still more of this process at work.

Pogorelich has the pianistic means to do almost anything he likes. He has the power to hurl the anger and outrage from those massive opening chords at the start of the Polonaise No 4 in C minor, written in 1839 when Poland was dominated by Russia. He can control touch and timbre minutely enough to make the central song of the Second Sonata's scherzo seem barely corporeal. And he has the clarity of articulation within the quietest playing to fashion a rare filigree of sound.

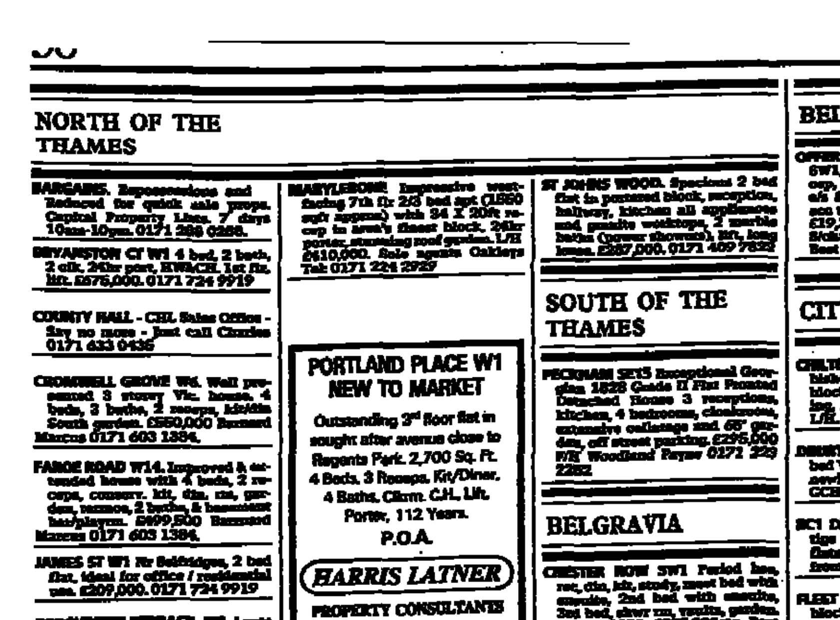
But, isolated from coherent interpretation, these skills can become mere effects. And when repeated in constant, predictable sequence these effects can become a substitute for authentic emotional response. Pogorelich's repertoire of gestures gradually took over and finally subordinated the music it was intended to express.

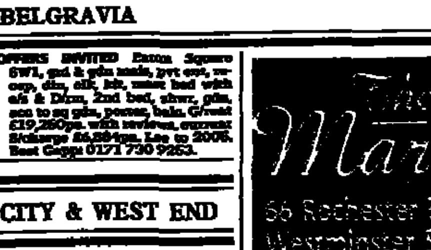
The two sonatas which formed the pillars of his programme compounded the characteristics of the opening polonaises. Surging energy was stultified by rhythms so dislocated, and a pulse so pulverised that the music's natural momentum was all but arrested. The artless song at the heart of the Second Sonata's scherzo was tormented by rubato so that its contours became distorted out of all recognition, until the music seemed to vanish into itself.

This sense of dissolution was carried to an extreme in the Third Sonata, whose slow movement was attenuated to the point of near absurdity. Despite some applause a significant and increasing restlessness became apparent in the audience throughout the second half of the evening.

Pogorelich's often bewildering recital was given in aid of the historic sites of Vukovar, the town in eastern Croatia which fell in 1991 after three months of bombardment. We bomb; and, in these corporate acts of beneficence or atonement, we rebuild. Who will be giving the benefit recital for Belgrade in five years' time?

HILARY FINCH





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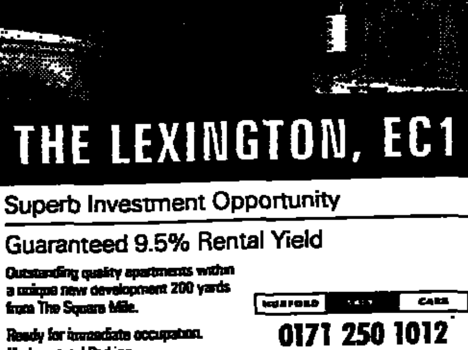
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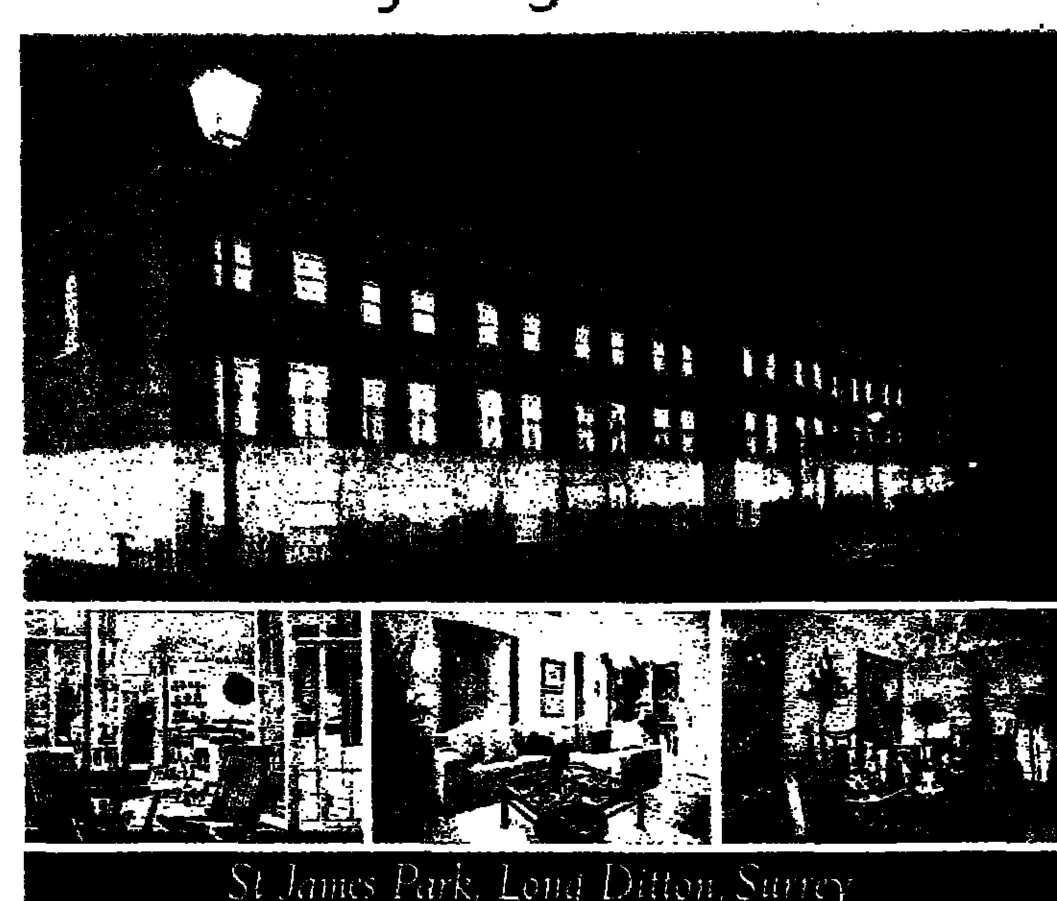
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The reception rooms in the Carrickmines show houses by Park Developments have fireplaces and wooden floors

Ireland's housing market is booming — and has been for five years. Ben Wakeham wonders whether there is a lesson there for Britain

The Irish housing market has been thriving for the past four or five years thanks to the economic boom, low interest rates and European funding. Prices have increased and houses are selling quickly.

Last year the Dublin market rose by 44 per cent, according to First Active, formerly Ireland's biggest building society. Interest-rate cuts have brought the republic in line with lending on the Continent, making property even more attractive.

"The Irish market is a fascinating potential foretaste of what could happen to the British market," says Richard Donnell from Savills. "It is questionable whether we would experience a similar boom, but the cheap cost of money is already fuelling the UK market and would clearly boost the market even more were we to join the euro."

A good example of the buoyancy of the market is the new development of 47 houses in the Dublin suburb of Carrickmines of which 16 of the properties are priced at about IR£1million, and all were reserved by last weekend.

Mr Donnell says: "The boom in Ireland's housing market is because of lower levels of interest rates and very strong economic growth. There have been a lot of investors buying property in Ireland and it has pushed up the prices for ordinary buyers." The most obvious cure for this kind of property boom would be a stiff increase in interest rates, just as happened in Britain in the 1980s, but interest rates have just been lowered on the instructions of the European Central Bank. You are now able to find mortgage rates lower than 6 per cent.

> Ireland feels that it is on a par with the best in Europe

But Mr Donnell does not think that Britain would experience a similar boom if it joined the euro: "People are spending an ever-smaller portion of their income on houses. At the peak of the 1980s, people in Britain were spending 40 per cent of their income on homes, now they are spending 16 per cent. People are saving more, or spending their income on consumer goods or going out in the evenings.

"Irish investors had a taste for investing at home, but are now being attracted by the higher yields in London. Last year 38 per cent of people buying in new building developments in London were Irish."

Of course, Ireland's tiger economy kick-started the housing market's growth. Growth rates have reached about 9 per cent, according to the Bank of Ireland, which is more than three times that of the UK. House prices rose nationally by 17.8 per cent last year, but in Dublin and the surrounding counties of Kildare, Louth, Meath and Wicklow they rose by 44 per cent.

"The Irish property market is incredibly strong," Andrew Hay, of Knight Frank, says. "It has boomed for the past four or five years — Ireland has never seen such growth. This is fuelled by the economic boom, low interest rates, European funding and a huge lift in national confidence. For the first time in generations, Ireland feels that it is on a par with the best in Europe."

Ronan O'Driscal, from the estate agents Hamilton Osborne King in Dublin, the selling agent for the Carrickmines development, says: "We are seeing more and more million-punt houses on the market. There is a strong demand with a shortage of housing stock. Many people are moving back to Ireland and the shortage is becoming a problem."

Mr Hay says demand is fuelled by a growth in the number of domestic buyers and many more millionaires. "There are more incoming overseas buyers," Mr Hay says. "Traditionally, overseas buyers were looking for a good quality of life but now they are moving to Ireland for business, too. Overseas executives are relocating, drawn by Dublin's financial services and the prosperity of silicon valley, west of Dublin.

"Another dimension is returning expatriates. Ireland has had a brain drain for generations, particularly to America and Britain, but people are coming back because of the surge in confidence. They are usually high earners with high standards and are buying expensive homes."

One problem is the severe shortage of rental properties — 90 per cent of the population own their own homes. In 1993, 787,000 people were potential home-owners; by 1998 that had swelled to 932,000. Immigrants outnumbered emigrants by 22,800 last year. Last year 95,000 jobs were created, which is more than the number created during the past ten years.

THE development in the exclusive Carrickmines suburb has 16 houses on offer between IR£900,000 (£750,000) and IR£1.2 million, depending on the size of the garden. The development also includes 31 smaller, four to five-bedroom detached houses, selling for between IR£540,000 and IR£625,000.

The two show-houses have different layouts. Both have four reception rooms and double-height entrance halls complete with American oak doors and overhead windows. One house has a double-height dining-room with steps leading to a spacious reception room. The reception rooms have fireplaces, wooden floors and picture windows.

Park Developments has provided one of the best kitchens available on the market. One of the show houses has four fitted bathrooms, the other five.

The most expensive houses have double garages. The smaller four to five-bedroom houses have less floor space and smaller gardens. They have three reception rooms and a large kitchen with the same units and electrical and gas appliances in the bigger houses. They also have an integrated garage.

Stamp duty on a new house is less than that on a previously owned home. Buyers of new homes have to pay stamp duty only on the cost of the site.

SMART MOVES

THE 18th-century farmhouse where the 7th Marquess of Bristol spent the last months of his life is for sale. The marquess, who squandered most of his £35 million fortune, died last January after a life fighting heroin addiction.

Little Horringer Hall, a five-bedroom house with stables and a tennis court, lies in the grounds of the former family estate in Ickworth, Suffolk. The family's agent, Simon Pott and Company, is selling the house for £600,000.

■ TYDD St Mary is an ancient village and parish is best known for being home to England's only pontiff. Adrian IV (Nicholas Brakespear) became Pope in 1154. The Old Rectory, a four-bedroom double Georgian longhouse once owned by the Church, has recently come on to the market. Bidwells' Cambridge office is selling the house for £290,000.

■ THE former home of the *Archers* editor, William Smethhurst, is for sale. When Mr Smethhurst developed the characters of Nigel and Lizzie Pargetter, he used his home, Compton Verney in Warwickshire, as the model for Lower Loxley Hall. The Grade II listed house is set in 40 acres of park, maintained by the Compton Verney museum. It is for sale through Knight Frank's Stratford-upon-Avon office for £315,000.

■ THE house where the Black Prince is reputed to have been born is for sale. Manor Farm House, Old Woodstock, Oxfordshire, is a Grade II listed manor house. The first recorded mention of the property is in 1342. The house is for sale through John D Wood for £425,000.

■ THE Dower House, Weybridge, Surrey, forms the centre of a property formerly known as Ashley Lodge. In the 1880s, the Prince of Wales, later Edward VII, leased the hunting lodge to Sir George Lewis, the solicitor who represented Oscar Wilde and James McNeill Whistler. The house remained Crown Property until the 1920s. It is for sale through Knight Frank's Esher office for £875,000.

EMMA GOSNELL

How to make jolly in one man's great folly

Beckford's tower may be eccentric but it is beautiful, says Rachel Kelly

When the eccentric art collector and writer William Beckford built a folly towering over downland north of Bath in 1825, he boasted that it commanded "the finest prospect in Europe", with views across the Bristol Channel to Wales and into Wiltshire.

His boast still rings true. And, if the tower's owner, the Beckford Tower Trust, and the Landmark Trust, complete their restoration work, four inhabitants will be able to enjoy his folly, and possibly Britain's most romantic home, for the millennium.

The Landmark Trust was approached by the Beckford Trust to renovate a large area in the tower and make it into four rooms; they hope that, as well as living space, the building will house a small museum. "It appealed to us because it will be such an exciting experience for Landmarkers to sit in the gilded lantern of the tower," says Peter Pearce, of Landmark. "We see it as the Landmark's millennium project, and we will fund it with our millennium fund."

The most spectacular feature for holidaymakers who hire Beckford's tower, which stands 800ft above sea level, is likely to be the belvedere at the top, which is reached by a spiral staircase. "The experience of sitting in the tower will really be quite special. It is newly gilded and shines like a beacon across Bath," Mr Pearce says.

External restoration work and the gilding of the lantern by the Beckford Tower Trust are now almost complete, at a cost of more than £650,000, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and a successful fund-raising appeal. However, a further £40,000 is still needed. The scheme relies on donations, including those made with bookings for the millennium.

The tower was originally Beckford's retreat. He would ride across the countryside from his home in Lansdown Crescent to admire his extensive art collection displayed in the rooms in the building's base.

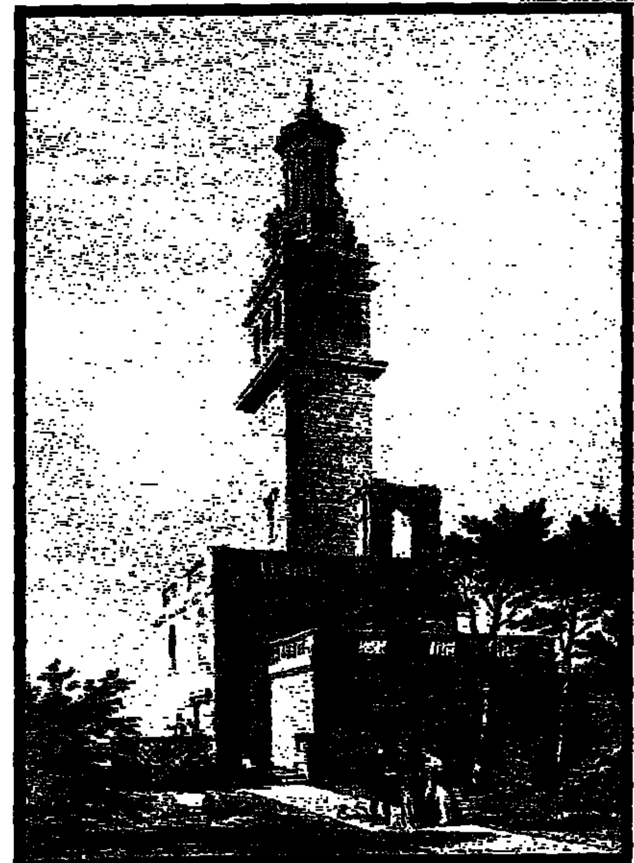
The interiors were giddy in their richness: the walls were terracotta, the curtains crimson and the ceilings gilded. The room, which is being converted, was originally known as the crimson chamber; one of two drawing rooms which Beckford used for entertaining and admiring. They were extravagantly decorated and Landmark hopes to achieve some of the atmosphere created in Beckford's day. The eccentric's great passion was for idiosyncratic buildings. He commissioned the mock-Gothic Fonthill Abbey in Wiltshire to the design of James Wyatt and lived there until 1822. Unfortunately, only a fragment of the house survives.

After Beckford's death in 1844, the gardens became a cemetery — where Beckford is buried beside his favourite dog. The tower was converted into a chapel; its interior was gutted by fire in the Thirties. In 1969, the building was made redundant.

Two admirers then bought the building and divided its base into two private flats and two exhibition rooms. More recently, the tower was bought by the Beckford Tower Appeal. Last year the 120ft tower was in danger of collapse. Only the efforts of the trust to raise £100,000 towards repairs has ensured its survival. External restoration work and the gilding took the cost to £650,000.

The Landmark hopes to convert the area into two bedrooms, a kitchen, living room and bathroom. It would sleep four people at a cost of about £250 for a mid-winter fortnight break, and £700 or £800 at high season for a week. Mr Pearce says: "It would attract a wide range of people. Beckford was a fascinating man and the tower is of great architectural interest."

WILLES MADDOX



Beckford's tower was built in 1825 and is now being restored

OTHER PLACES TO RENT: Appleton Water Tower, near Sandringham, Norfolk, is another Landmark Trust property. The late 19th-century building was designed by Robert Rawlinson with a distant view of the Wash from the top. It sleeps up to four and has an enclosed garden.

Martello Tower, Aldeburgh, Suffolk, is also a Landmark tower which once helped to keep out Napoleon. Shaped as a quatrefoil for four heavy guns, it stands in eight acres of saltings at the foot of the Orford Ness peninsular, between the River Alde and the sea. It has sleeps up to four with parking near by.

St Peter's Church, Highway, near Calne in Wiltshire, was built in 1896 by William Butterfield. It offers peace and tranquility as a recently converted four-bedroom house. It can be rented through the agents Knight Frank.

LINKS

Websites:
www.bath-preservation-trust.org.uk
www.landmarktrust.co.uk

● *Donations for the restoration of the tower can be sent to: Beckford Tower Appeal, Freepost (SWB10234), 1 Royal Crescent, Bath, BA1 2XF; Landmark Trust booking line, 01628 825925. The trust emphasises that buildings are being let for the millennium only to people on its mailing list, with a closing date of May 15. It is still possible to get your name on the list by buying the* Landmark Handbook, *priced £9.50, or ringing the above number. The trust cannot take any potential bookings for Beckford tower, until it becomes clear when restoration work will be complete.*

SURREY

WALES

WILTSHIRE

YORKSHIRE

LONDON RENTALS

LONDON RENTALS

RETIREMENT HOMES

NEW HOMES

NEW HOMES

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OVERSEAS PROPERTY

PROPERTY WANTED

COUNTRY RENTALS

FRANCE

FRANCE

PORTUGAL

هكذا من الأصل

Calzaghe anxious to restore reputation

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

JOE CALZAGHE intends to make amends for his failure to impress when he defended his World Boxing Organisation (WBO) super-middleweight championship against Robin Reid, of Runcorn, last February. He has lined up two contests: against Glenn Catley, of Bristol, the World Boxing Council (WBC) No 1, or Rick Thornberry, of Australia, the WBO No 1, at Cardiff International Arena on June 5, and then Steve Collins in September.

Calzaghe blames a hand injury for his performance against Reid, but he feels he can convince the doubters that he is still the best super-middleweight in the world.

"The fight against Reid showed that Joe has got great stamina and a great chin," Frank Warren, Calzaghe's promoter, said. "It's the sort of thing he will need when he comes to fight Roy Jones [the WBC light-heavyweight champion]."

It had been hoped that Calzaghe would meet Richie Woodhall, the WBC super-middleweight champion, in a unification bout in the summer, but the Telford man wanted too much money — £1 million.

Eighteen months ago, Collins forfeited his belt when he dropped out of a contest against Calzaghe at the last moment, but Warren said yesterday that this was the contest the public wanted to see and he hopes to put it on in Cardiff.

"I've had talks with Steve," Warren said. "He said he wants a chance to set the record straight. He is in good shape."

SNOOKER

Higgins races into position of dominance

By Phil Yates

JOHN HIGGINS continued to stamp his authority on the Embassy world championship with menacing efficiency yesterday when he established an 8-0 lead over Stephen Lee in the quarter-finals at the Crucible theatre, Sheffield. Higgins showed no weakness and gave Lee no cause for hope of recovery on the way to improving his overall frames record to 31-6 with the consistent, mistake-free form that has enabled him to win the Benson and Hedges Masters, United Kingdom championship, Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge and China International this season.

The Scot, favourite to become the only player to defend the title at the Crucible successfully at his first attempt, did not score quite as heavily as when building an 8-0 lead over Mark King in the previous round, but he was not far short. Signalling his intent with a 132 total clearance and encouraged by numerous unforced errors from Lee in the early stages, Higgins placed himself in a position of immense strength with additional contributions of 51, 69, 82, 56, 91 and 63. In so doing, he outscored Lee 763-81.

Higgins, who beat Gerard Greene 10-2 in the first round and King 13-4 in the last 16, is achieving a level of dominance of which Steve Davis, in the Eighties, and Stephen Hendry, for much of this decade, would have been proud.

Although Hendry's play did not quite measure up to that of Higgins, his friend, compatriot and fiercest rival, he did enough to carry a 6-2 advantage over Matthew Stevens into the concluding two sessions today. Nevertheless, Hendry agreed that it was a flattering scoreline. He did compile his first century break of the championship this year, 109, but also stole one frame on the black and two others on the pink.

It was a score that brought a smile to the face of Naseem Hamed, the World Boxing Organisation featherweight champion, who is a staunch supporter of Hendry. Hamed viewed the session from the front row of the press seats, only an extended left hook from the table.

Mark Williams and Ronnie O'Sullivan also contributed to the high quality, fast-flowing snooker on display by seizing command of their respective quarter-finals against more experienced, if less flamboyant, opponents, who already have their names engraved on the trophy.

Williams, attempting to win his fourth world-ranking tournament of the season, potted superbly in establishing a 7-1 lead over Ken Doherty. After winning the opening frame, Doherty fell victim to a demonstration of excellence that any of the game's leading exponents would have found difficult to combat. No ball was safe, no position provided insurmountable obstacles to a telling Williams break.

Williams was responsible for runs of 71, 76, 44, 46, 78 and, when Doherty suffered a bad kick in the closing frame of the morning, which caused him to jaw a straightforward red, the Welshman pounced with an 82 clearance.


ERIC WHITEHEAD

Williams is a study in concentration during the first session of his quarter-final against Doherty, which he ended with a 7-1 lead

John Parrott, who leads O'Sullivan 6-2 in career meetings and defeated him 13-4 in the last 16 of the 1994 world championship, fashioned a 133 total clearance in the fifth frame, but it was generally an unproductive first session for the Liverpudlian, who found himself 6-2 in arrears. Looking more focused than in the earlier rounds, O'Sullivan stole the seventh frame on the black with a 52 clearance and, even more damagingly for Parrott's morale, salvaged the fourth after trailing 74-0 and requiring two snookers with five reds still on the table.

LINKS

WEBSITE: www.embassysnooker.com — official tournament site.

TELEVISION: BBC2, 1.10, 4.00, 6.45, 9.00pm. BBC1, 2.30pm

RUGBY UNION

IRB takes hard disciplinary line

By Mark Souster

THE International Rugby Board (IRB) is to appoint a citing officer at every international from September 1. The decision has been taken in the light of what Allan Hosie, the chairman of the IRB's Laws Committee, described as several unsavoury incidents that had served only to damage the image of the game.

Chief among those was that involving Martin Johnson and John Leslie during the Calcutta Cup match in the Five Nations Championship earlier this year. Leslie was stamped on by Johnson, who received a yellow card but escaped further punishment. The Scotland management was incensed but was powerless to take the matter further because the referee, under existing regulations, had dealt with the offence already.

Hosie said that previously the Board had left the onus on individual countries to take appropriate action, but this had proved impracticable. "That onus has now been taken off countries and everyone will know where they stand," Hosie said.

Citing officers sit with match commissioners already in the southern hemisphere for tri-nations internationals and Super 12 games. The move to standardise disciplinary regulations between the northern and southern hemispheres was taken at the recent IRB annual meeting in Argentina.

The British Isles tour to the southern hemisphere in 2001 will now visit only Australia. Originally, the Lions were due to play in New Zealand as well, but now Australia has been granted the 11-match tour, including three internationals, in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

The English league will run through the World Cup, despite the reluctance and disquiet of several leading clubs, among them Leicester and Newcastle Falcons. A board meeting of English First-Division Rugby yesterday endorsed the decision taken earlier this year, which means that league games played through the tournament will be worth two points and those thereafter three points, so as not to penalise excessively clubs with a large quota of international players. A fixture list is expected to be sent to Twickenham today.

Worcester are considering signing up to eight players from West Hartlepool, who will be relegated from the first division of the Allied Dunbar Premiership this weekend if they lose to Bedford. With West desperate to trim their overheads, the sale of the cream of their squad, including Tu Nu'uali'itia and Steve Vile, the half-backs, will provide the club with financial impetus.

With their promotion campaign from the second division having faltered, Worcester are desperate to reach the Premiership by whatever means and had been in discussion with Bristol about buying that club's option in London Scottish — should it become available — as a means of ensuring top-flight rugby next year. However, nothing firm can be agreed until all the issues concerning promotion and relegation — and the play-offs — have been resolved, which is almost certain to be the last day of the season.

□ The sports commission in Namibia has banned the national team from playing internationals pending an investigation into accusations of racism in the sport. Karel Persendt, president of the commission, has accused the Namibian Rugby Union of ignoring a quota agreement for the number of white and non-white players in the domestic game. Namibia have qualified for the World Cup finals later this year.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE PUBLISHED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER SUBSECTIONS 8(5) AND 10(6) OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT 1984

The Secretary of State hereby gives notice as follows.

1. He proposes to grant licences under the Telecommunications Act 1984 ("the Act") to Netkonect Communications Limited and Rateflame Limited ("the Licensees") to run telecommunication systems in the United Kingdom. The licence to be granted to Netkonect Communications Limited will be for a period of six months, thereafter being subject to revocation on one month's notice. The Licence to be granted to Rateflame Limited will be for a period of 25 years subject to earlier revocation in specified circumstances.
2. The principal effect of the licence to be granted to Netkonect Communications Limited will be to enable the Licensee to install and run telecommunication systems in the United Kingdom which may be connected to telecommunication systems outside the United Kingdom, and to provide a wide range of services but not any domestic services (i.e. services involving the conveyance of messages which originate and are subsequently to terminate in the United Kingdom) or mobile radio services. This licence authorises connection to a wide range of other systems, including earth orbiting apparatus. The principal effect of the Licence to be granted to Rateflame Limited will be to enable them to install and run telecommunication systems throughout the United Kingdom and provide a wide range of services but excluding mobile radio services and certain international services. This licence also authorises connection to a wide range of other systems, including earth orbiting apparatus, allowing the provision of some types of international service. On securing a share of 25% or more of the market in respect of particular services in an area specified by the Director General of Telecommunications, Rateflame Limited may be obliged to make available those telecommunication services to all who reasonably request them within that area.
3. Each licence will be subject to conditions such that section 8 of the Act will apply to it, thereby making each of the systems run under each licence eligible for designation as a public telecommunication system under section 9 of the Act. It is the intention of the Secretary of State to designate each of the Licensees' systems as a public telecommunication system.
4. The Secretary of State proposes to grant each licence in response to an application from each Licensee for such a licence because he considers that it will help to satisfy demands in the United Kingdom for the provision of services of the type authorised, will promote the interests of consumers in respect of the quality and variety of such services, and will maintain and promote effective competition between those engaged in the provision of telecommunication services.
5. He proposes to apply the telecommunications code ("the Code") to Rateflame Limited subject to certain exceptions and conditions throughout the United Kingdom. The effect of the exceptions and conditions to the application of the Code is that Rateflame Limited will have duties:
   (a) to comply with various safety and environmental conditions, in particular (with certain exceptions) to install lines underground or only on such above-ground apparatus as is already installed for any purpose;
   (b) to comply with conditions designed to ensure efficiency and economy on its part, in connection with the execution of works on land concerning the installation, maintenance, repair or alteration of its apparatus;
   (c) to consult certain public bodies before exercising particular powers under the Code, including the local planning and highway authorities and English Nature, Scottish Natural Heritage, the Countryside Council for Wales, the National Trust and the National Trust for Scotland, as well as relevant electricity suppliers;
   (d) to keep and make available records of the location of underground apparatus and copies of the exceptions and conditions in its licence to its powers under the Code; and
   (e) to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet certain liabilities arising from the execution of street works.
6. The reason why the Secretary of State proposes to apply the Code to Rateflame Limited is that Rateflame Limited will need the statutory powers in the Code to install and maintain the telecommunication systems which are to be installed and run under its proposed licence.
7. The reasons why it is proposed that the Code as applied should have effect subject to the exceptions and conditions referred to above are that they are considered requisite or expedient for the purpose of securing that the physical environment is protected, that there is no greater damage to land than necessary, that the systems are installed as safely and economically as possible, and that Rateflame Limited can meet (and relevant persons can enforce) liabilities arising from the execution of works.
8. Representations or objections may be made in respect of the proposed licences, the application of the Code to Rateflame Limited and the proposed exceptions and conditions referred to above. They should be made in writing by 27 May 1999 and addressed to the undersigned at the Department of Trade and Industry, Communications and Information Industries Directorate, 2.80 Grey, 151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SS. Copies of the proposed licences can be freely obtained by writing to the Department or by calling 0171-215 1756.

Alan Proud
Department of Trade and Industry
28 April 1999

NOTICE PUBLISHED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER SUBSECTIONS 8(5) AND 10(6) OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT 1984

The Secretary of State hereby gives notice as follows.

1. He proposes to grant a licence under the Telecommunications Act 1984 ("the Act") to Inter Digital Networks Limited ("the Licensee") to run telecommunication systems throughout the United Kingdom. The licence will be for a period of twenty-five years, subject to earlier revocation in specified circumstances.
2. The principal effect of the licence will be to enable the Licensee to install and run telecommunication systems in the United Kingdom. The Licensee will be able to provide a wide range of services but excluding mobile radio services and certain international services. The licence authorises connection to a wide range of other systems, including earth orbiting apparatus, allowing the provision of some types of international service. On securing a share of 25% or more of the market in respect of particular services in an area specified by the Director General of Telecommunications, the Licensee may be obliged to make available those telecommunications services to all who reasonably request them within that area.
3. The licence will be subject to conditions such that section 8 of the Act will apply to it, thereby making the system run under the licence eligible for designation as a public telecommunication system under section 9 of the Act. It is the intention of the Secretary of State to designate the Licensee's system as a public telecommunication system.
4. he Secretary of State proposes to grant the licence in response to an application from the Licensee for such a licence because he considers that it will help to satisfy demands in the United Kingdom for the provision of services of the type authorised, will promote the interests of consumers in respect of the quality and variety of such services, and will maintain and promote effective competition between those engaged in the provision of telecommunication services.
5. He proposes to apply the telecommunications code ("the Code") to the Licensee subject to certain exceptions and conditions throughout the United Kingdom. The effect of the exceptions and conditions to the application of the Code is that the Licensee will have duties:
   (a) to comply with various safety and environmental conditions, in particular (with certain exceptions) to install lines underground or only on such above-ground apparatus as is already installed for any purpose;
   (b) to comply with conditions designed to ensure efficiency and economy on the part of the Licensee, in connection with the execution of works on land concerning the installation, maintenance, repair or alteration of its apparatus;
   (c) to consult certain public bodies before exercising particular powers under the Code, including the local planning and highway authorities and English Nature, Scottish Natural Heritage, the Countryside Council for Wales, the National Trust and the National Trust for Scotland, as well as relevant electricity suppliers;
   (d) to keep and make available records of the location of underground apparatus and copies of the exceptions and conditions in the licence to its powers under the Code; and
   (e) to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet certain liabilities arising from the execution of street works.
6. The reason why the Secretary of State proposes to apply the Code to the Licensee is that the Licensee will need the statutory powers in the Code to install and maintain the telecommunication systems which are to be installed and run under the proposed licence.
7. The reasons why it is proposed that the Code as applied should have effect subject to the exceptions and conditions referred to above are that they are considered requisite or expedient for the purpose of securing that the physical environment is protected, that there is no greater damage to land than necessary, that the systems are installed as safely and economically as possible, and that the Licensee can meet (and relevant persons can enforce) liabilities arising from the execution of works.
8. Representations or objections may be made in respect of the proposed licence, the application of the Code to the Licensee and the proposed exceptions and conditions referred to above. They should be made in writing by 27 May 1999 and addressed to the undersigned at the Department of Trade and Industry, Communications and Information Industries Directorate, 2.80 Grey, 151 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SS. Copies of the proposed licence can freely be obtained by writing to the Department or by calling 0171-215 1756.

Alan D Proud
Department of Trade and Industry
28 April 1999

LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
REFINERY CRANE REALISATIONS LIMITED formerly RCPS (CRANE HIRE) LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the unsecured Creditors of the above named Company will be held at The Oaklands Hotel, Barton Street, Laceby, Grimsby, DN37 7LF on 13 May 1999 at 10am, for the purposes mentioned in Section 48 and 49 of the said Act.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. Other creditors are only entitled to vote if:-
a) they have given to the Joint Administrative Receivers, not later than 12.00 hours on the business day before the day on which the meeting is to be held, details in writing of the debt that they claim to be due to them from the Company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986; and
b) there has been lodged with the Joint Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on their behalf.
Dated April 23 1999
Roger Marsh and Ian Schneider
Joint Administrative Receivers
[illegible]

[illegible]

TRUSTEE ACTS

[illegible]

TRUSTEE ACTS

[illegible]

Charity Commission

[illegible]

LEGAL NOTICES

[illegible]

Alan Lee finds the Punchestown Festival cementing its position as the Irish Cheltenham

Injury costs Maguire ride on Dorans Pride

The fates that frowned upon Adrian Maguire through three years of bleak misfortune had been regarding him more benignly of late but he is ending another season in familiar distress. Within hours of being booked for a prime spare ride on Dorans Pride in the Heineken Gold Cup at Punchestown today, Maguire was digesting the news that he has once more cracked a bone in his right wrist.

He suffered the injury when Bessie Browne fell fatally in the final race at Plumpton on Monday but had been hopeful of riding on until the injury swelled up overnight. An X-ray revealed a fracture and, in his absence today, the seemingly indestructible Tony McCoy will partner Dorans Pride in a £120,000 event that also features Florida Pearl and Escartefigue.

Maguire will be out for at least a fortnight and may be obliged to write off the dog days of this season. His dismay, though, will be immediate, for he had accumulated an enviable series of rides at Punchestown — several, ironically, through the injuries sustained a week ago by Paul Carberry.

While Carberry, extrovert hero of the Grand National, recovers in a Co Tipperary Hospital from surgery on a damaged spleen, Maguire is at home in Wiltshire, yet again missing out on a highlight of the National Hunt season and doubtless reflecting that in this ultimate game of swings and roundabouts, he has all too often been consigned to the slide. "It isn't very painful and I was pretty confident of being all right last night," Maguire said. "I'm very disappointed."

Dorans Pride disappointed in the Cheltenham Gold Cup, when Michael Hourigan, his trainer, felt Carberry's tactics were too vigorous. As at Cheltenham, though, the bulk of Irish money in today's five-horse field will be for Florida Pearl, who finished a creditable third in the Gold Cup.


Maguire: injured again

Florida Pearl will once more be ridden by Richard Dunwoody, who provided the sole British success yesterday aboard the valiant and deserving Celibate, 7-1 winner of the BMW Chase. Celibate, trained by Charlie Mann, had been placed in the two-mile championship races at both Cheltenham and Aintree, and he owed this overdue victory to an inspired exhibition of pace-setting by Dunwoody.

"I wish to God I had a dozen more like this horse," Mann said. "He deserves this more than I do."

Direct Route, the 5-4 favourite, was beaten two lengths in third and would have been much closer but for ploughing through the last, a mistake which allowed Space Trucker to take second place. Big Matt, the winner last year, was uncompetitive on a deflating day for Nick Henderson, his trainer.

Henderson had prepared Bacchanal specifically for the Country Pride Champion Novice Hurdle, but the plan was futile as he trailed in, last and lame, behind the emphatic Cardinal Hill.

This was the first winner of the meeting — but surely not the last — for J. P. McManus, who now looks certain to finish as champion owner both in Britain and Ireland for the first time. McManus, though, now has one of those pleasurable problems that afflict men in his position, for Cardinal Hill is now the most viable challenger to his own Istabraq for the Champion Hurdle next year.

"We'll be going wherever the other fellow doesn't go," Noel Meade, trainer of Cardinal Hill, said. McManus added. "These things tend to sort themselves out in time," he said. "There are a lot of good races to be won before we even think of getting them both to Cheltenham."

Istabraq completes his season here in the Shell Champion Hurdle on Friday, an additional fourth day to a burgeoning Festival that now offers almost £1 million prize-money. McManus reckons he has been coming here for 30 years but anyone returning after an absence of only two would barely have recognised the place yesterday.

The first phase of redevelopment has cost £10 million and this extraordinary mirage in a wilderness of Kildare fields now has a dash of comfort and class. Legend has it that 150,000 squeezed in when the Prince of Wales visited the races here in 1868. There were 130,000 fewer yesterday but the unique buzz of the Irish Cheltenham was intact.

CAROLINE NORRIS


Celibate leads Direct Route over the last on his way to victory in the BMW Chase at Leopardstown yesterday

BIG-RACE FIELDS BBC1: 2.40 (Recording), 3.15

GOING: SOFT SIS

2.40 STANLEY COOKER CHAMPION NOVICE HURDLE (Grade I: £31,000: 2m 4f) (11 runners)

1 1120 BOSUNS MATE 43 (F,G,S) N T-Davies (GB) 6-12-0 C Maude 124
2 6216 NATIVE DARA 22 (C,G,S) N Meade 6-12-0 B J Geraghty –
3 1222 NATIVE UPMANSHIP 23 (S) A L Moore 6-12-0 T P Treacy –
4 1303 PROMINENT PROFILE 19 (D,G,S) N T-Davies (GB) 6-12-0 C Llewellyn 115
5 1U12 SAMAKAAN 13 (S) Miss V Williams (GB) 6-12-0 N Williamson 119
6 6153 WITHER OR WHICH 22 (CD,S) W P Mullins 8-12-0 R Walsh 75
7 1214 COLONEL YEAGER 43 (C,S) M Lynch 5-11-13 R Dunwoody 92
8 1121 JOE MAC 20 (G,S) C Roche 5-11-13 C O'Dwyer
9 1301 WINTER GARDEN 21 (D,S) N Meade 5-11-13 A P McCoy 114
10 1581 COPPER SUPREME 6 (D,S) D Coffey 8-11-9 G Cotter –
11 0111 SITE-LEADER 21 (D,S) P Nolan 5-11-8 C F Swan –

2-1 Joe Mac, 5-1 Colonel Yeager, 7-1 Samakaan, Winter Garden, 8-1 others.

3.15 PUNCHESTOWN HEINEKEN GOLD CUP (Grade I: £74,400: 3m 1f) (5 runners)

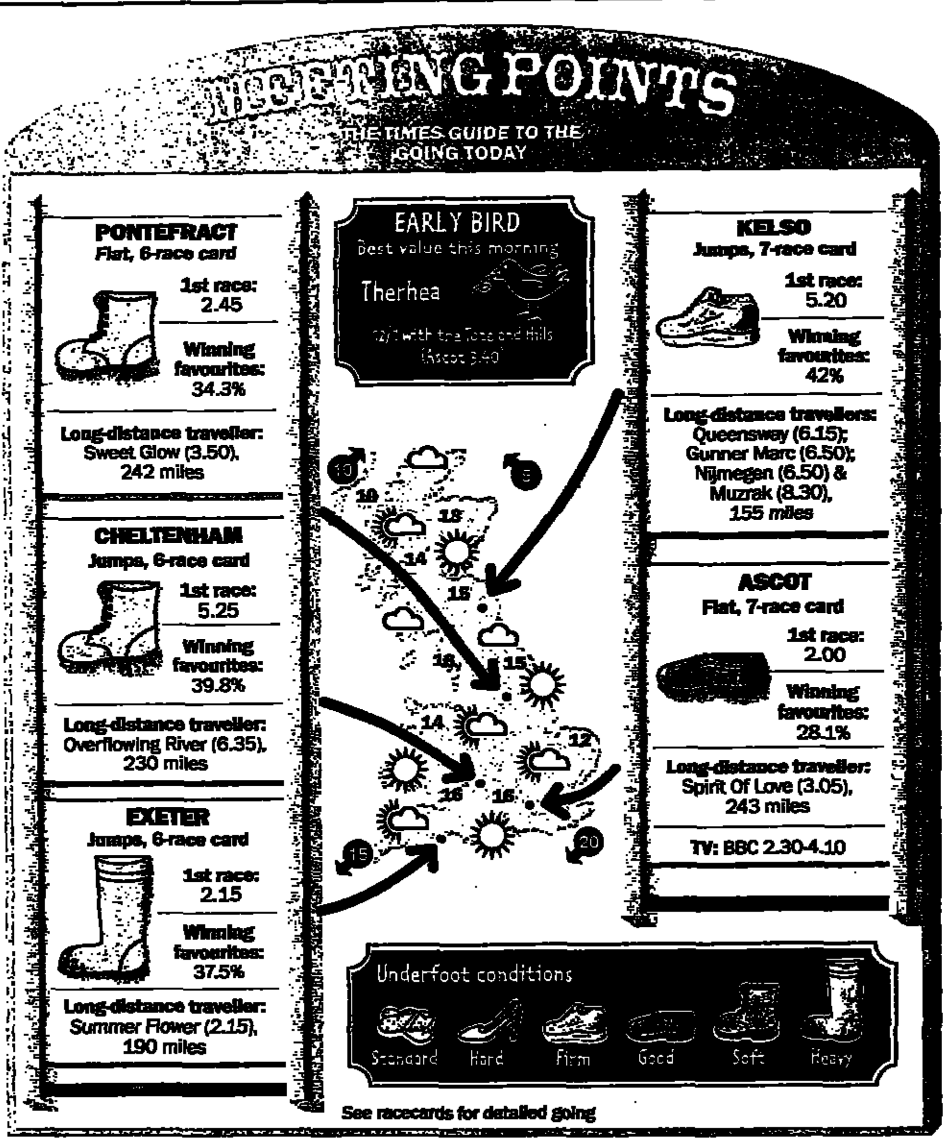
1 1210 DORANS PRIDE 31F (C,F,G,S) M Hourigan 10-12-0 A P McCoy 105
2 -F13 FLORIDA PEARL 41 (BF,D,F,G,S) W P Mullins 7-12-0 R Dunwoody
3 2202 ESCARTEFIGUE 20 (D,G,S) D Nicholson (GB) 7-11-9 R Johnson 150
4 2113 IMPERIAL CALL 123 (C,G,S) R Hurley 10-11-9 R Walsh –
5 2224 OPERA HAT 19 (G,S) J Fowler 11-11-9 C O'Dwyer 106

5-6 Florida Pearl, 3-1 Dorans Pride, 9-2 Escartefigue, 8-1 Imperial Call, 12-1 Opera Hat.

RESULTS

3.15 (2m hdle) 1, **CARDINAL HILL** (C F Swan, 1-2 fav), 2, **Greenstead** (B J Geraghty, 20-1); 3, **Dance So Suite** (N Williamson, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Bacchanal (4th), 16 Fadoudal Du Cochet. 5 ran 1½l, 5l, 15l, nk. N Meade Tote. £1 60, £1 10, £3.90 DF: £8.50. CSF. £10 56.

3.50 (2m ch) 1, **CELIBATE** (R Dunwoody, 7-1); 2, **Space Trucker** (J R Berry, 8-1); 3, **Direct Route** (N Williamson, 5-4 fav). ALSO RAN. 7-2 Green Green Desert (pu), 8 Hill Society (4th), 14 Big Matt (5th). 6 Ran. 1l, 1l, ½l, Dist. C Mann at Lambourn. Tote: £6.60; £2.50, £1 90. DF. £28.30 CSF: £46.17



EXETER

ROB WRIGHT
2.15 Summer Flower
2.50 You're Agoodun
3.25 Glacial King
4.00 Just Jasmine
4.30 Handy Lass
5.00 Cento

GOING: HEAVY (SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

2.15 BODMIN SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,884: 2m 1f 110yd) (16 runners)

1 S020 RON'S ROUND 22 (BF) M Pipe 5-12-0 S Wynne
2 P0-P PERFECT PAL 15 (F,S) M Coombe 8-11-9 Miss M Coombe
3 B613 SUMMER FLOWER 7 (F,S) Miss Davison 9-10-12 Mr A Irvine (7)
4 -066 KNOCKAROO 23 (B,G) D Whittle 8-10-10 W Marston
5 P3PP MAY SUNSET 22 (B,G) N Hawke 9-10-7 J Tizzard
6 5240 SIENA 11 Miss K George 4-10-5 J Mogford (7)
7 0403 DON'T WORRY MIKE 12F K Bridgwater 5-10-5 M Griffiths (5)
8 40F0 SILENT GUNS 15 (B,S) G Edwards 10-10-3 J Power (7)
9 4F0 RISE ABOVE 85 Miss K George 5-10-3 R Massey
10 P4-P POT BLACKBIRD 50 (T) R Brotherton 10-10-2 R Thornton
11 0P-F TIOTAO 4 R Baker 9-10-0 G Shenkin (5)
12 0-P6 KARACHI 84 R Frost 9-10-0 T O'Connor (7)
13 2334 REMEMBER STAR 50 R Baker 6-10-0 V Slattery
14 -5PP BABY LANCASTER 42 M Griffin 8-10-0 Sophie Mitchell
15 -P0U BONNY BAROSY 268 Miss A Howard-Chappell 8-10-0 R Greene
16 -000 TAFZAL 183 (B) P Wegmann 8-10-0 D Matthews

2-1 Summer Flower, 7-2 Ron's Round, 8-1 Don't Worry Mike, 10-1 others.

2.50 EXMOOR NOVICES HURDLE (£2,915: 2m 7f) (14)

1 211P MASTER RASTUS 14 (S) Mrs S Williams 6-11-13 W Marston
2 3211 YOU'RE AGOODUN 14 (B,D,G,S) M Pipe 7-11-13 R Greene
3 /P-6 BOOZYS DREAM 23 N Thomson 8-11-1 R Bellamy
4 6-62 CROOKEDSTONE 15 (S) K Bailey 7-11-1 R Waldey
5 /4/0 IN THE ROUGH 19 (G) J Old 8-11-1 G Tormey
6 320P JAZZ DUKE 50 M J Weeden 6-11-1 G Shenkin (5)
7 0P-4 ROYAL VALOR 23 G Balding 7-11-1 B Clifford
8 5212 THE HILL HAS MOVED 70 (S) P Hobbs 6-11-1 Mr D O'Meara (7)
9 /P/0 TIRLEY LEADER 15 J S Smith 10-11-1 O McPhail (5)
10 /000 CLAN ROSS 6 (V) P Ritchens 8-10-10 P Holley
11 04 HOTTENTOT 23 J Old 6-10-10 J Power (7)
12 245P KENTFORD TINA 63 (G) J Mullins 8-10-10 A Bates (3)
13 2-23 PRIMITIVE STAR 15 (F) R Buckler 8-10-10 D O'Sullivan (7)
14 P SWISSIE 209 P Wegmann 4-10-2 D Matthews

6-4 You're Agoodun, 4-1 Master Rastus, 7-1 Crookedstone, 8-1 others.

3.25 GREIG MIDDLETON NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,966: 2m 7f 110yd) (9)

1 300P THUNDERPOINT 11 (V,F) Miss K George 7-11-12 J Mogford (7)
2 -502 JOY FOR LIFE 15 (G,S) R Stronge 8-11-4 Mr S Stronge (7)
3 5F1U DEFENDTHEREALM 38 (C,S) R Frost 8-11-1 J Frost
4 333P ONEANTHREEQUARTERS 42 (B,G,S) P Eccles 7-11-1 S Durack
5 P042 CARMEL'S JOY 11 (S) T George 10-11-0 R Walkey
6 2243 DUNNICKS VIEW 8 F Tucker 10-10-5 S Burrough
7 -PP3 GLACIAL KING 86 (G) K Bishop 7-10-0 R Greene
8 P656 HELLO ME MAN 22 (F,G,S) B Llewellyn 11-10-0 F Kenny (7)
9 5/PP EASY OVER 56 (F,G,S) Mrs D Thomas 13-10-0 J Goldstein (3)

2-1 Defendtherealm, 11-4 Joy For Life, 11-2 Oneanthreequarters, 6-1 Dunnicks View, 8-1 Carmel's Joy, 10-1 others.

4.00 RACING CHANNEL HANDICAP CHASE (£4,138: 2m 1f 110yd) (5)

1 22U2 AMBLESIDE 15 (D,G,S) Mrs S Williams 8-11-10 J Tizzard
2 -323 KIBREET 20 (F,G,S) P Hobbs 12-11-10 A Thornton
3 /524 KINGS CHERRY 22 (D,S) J Old 11-11-9 G Baines (7)
4 2205 ROBINS PRIDE 23 (D,G,S) C Popham 9-11-0 L Cummins (3)
5 2211 JUST JASMINE 39 (S) K Bishop 7-11-0 R Greene

7-4 Just Jasmine, 9-4 Ambleside, 9-2 Kibreet, 11-2 others.

4.30 GREIG MIDDLETON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,851: 2m 3f 110yd) (5)

1 3312 HANDY LASS 23 (C,D,F,G,S) J S Smith 10-11-10 O McPhail (5)
2 2350 TONKA 13 (S) D Gandolfo 7-11-4 D Leahy
3 4/16 POT BLACK UK 38 (BF,C,S) P Hobbs 8-10-10 Mr P Flynn (7)
4 3350 DISTANT STORM 11 (V,C,G,S) B Llewellyn 6-10-7 Miss E J Jones
5 PP00 SAAFI 23 (B,D,G,S) C Popham 8-10-0 L Cummins (3)

7-4 Handy Lass, 9-4 Tonka, Pot Black Uk, 6-1 Distant Storm, 33-1 Saafi.

5.00 DARTMOOR CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,276: 2m 1f 110yd) (6)

1 15P4 CENTO 23 (B,S) Mrs S Williams 6-12-0 J Tizzard
2 1304 PRIDEWOOD FUGGLE 11 (G) R J Price 9-10-12 J Mogford
3 0140 TOPANGA 70 (V,D,S) M Bradstock 7-10-9 R Studholme
4 6F24 SANDORAN 15 M Hill 6-10-7 X Aizpuru
5 0P00 BARNANE WALK 23 (BF) J Tuck 7-10-1 H Oliver
6 0056 MUSIC CLASS 84 (B) R Baker 8-10-0 G Shenkin

5-2 Barnane Walk, 3-1 Sandoran, 7-2 Cento, 9-2 Topanga, 5-1 others.

O'Brien brings Guineas team to boil

By Alan Lee
Racing Correspondent

AIDAN O'BRIEN may have had a part of his meticulous mind trained on Punchestown, and the Festival that helped make his name, but his priority yesterday was to put his two Guineas candidates through their final serious work. By the weekend, both may be favourite for their respective classics at Newmarket.

Orpen, already clear favourite with Ladbrokes and William Hill for the 2,000 Guineas on Saturday, and Sunspangled, closest market rival to 1,000 Guineas favourite Moiava, were worked over five furlongs by stable jockey Mick Kinane, who will ride them both at the weekend.

O'Brien, the boyish genius of Ballydoyle, won the 2,000 Guineas with King Of Kings a year ago without giving him a previous run and he is employing the same tactics with Orpen. Kinane agrees that they are similar horses. "Both are clean-winded and take their work well. Orpen may come on for the run but he won't fail for lack of fitness," the jockey said after returning home from Ballydoyle.

The past three 2,000 Guineas winners have not needed the traditional preparation race and four of the top six in the betting for this year's renewal are without a run this season. Much more of this and the highly-vaunted trials, which this year served only to confuse, will seem a complete irrelevance.

Kinane reported himself satisfied with both his big-race mounts and, while Orpen is unlikely to venture beyond the Guineas distance of one mile, he is anticipating Sunspangled getting considerably farther. "Aidan's plan is to go for the Oaks next and I am confident she will stay," he said.

Ladbrokes, the only firm to offer 4-1 about French filly Moiava yesterday, cut her to 7-2 after sustained support, but the threat remains that up to four fillies may have to be ballotted out of Sunday's race because of a safety limit of 23. Bountiful Lady, trained by Sir Michael Stoute, would be the first eliminated.

ASCOT

ROB WRIGHT
2.00 Optimaite
2.30 Insinuate
3.05 SPIRIT OF LOVE (nap)
3.40 Grangeville
4.10 Ace Of Parkes
4.40 Trans Island
5.10 Mr Majica

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.40 NO EXTRAS.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Insinuate. 3.05 Maridpour. 3.40 AL MUALLIM (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
DRAW: 5F-1M STRAIGHT, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.00 GARTER CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £7,282: 5f) (5 runners)

101 (4) 11 FIRST BLOOD 13 (D,G,S) (Goodfellows Racing) T Mills 9-1 T Quinn
102 (3) 5 ALFIE LEE 13 (J T B Racing) C Allen 8-11 K Fallon 50
103 (2) 0 BEE EIGHT 9 (J Wotherspoon) D Elsworth 8-11 M J Kinane 43
104 (1) 3 GREAT WHITE 13 (I Wight) R Hannon 8-11 R Hughes 69
105 (5) 1 OPTIMAITE 16 (D,F) (Always Hopeful Partnership) B Millman 8-11 T Sprake 59

BETTING: 6-4 Optimaite, 9-4 First Blood, 7-2 Great White, 8-1 Bee Eight, 12-1 Alfie Lee.

1998 MEETING ABANDONED - COURSE WATERLOGGED

First Blood and OPTIMAITE are bright early two-year-olds and likely to dominate. First Blood beat Barringer 1¾l at Newmarket (5f, good) with Alfie Lee (1lb better off) 5l fifth. He had earlier won on soft ground at Folkestone, so will not be troubled by the ground. Optimaite, however, narrowly gets the vote in receipt of 4lb. He created a highly favourable impression when beating Anstar 5l at Windsor (5f 10yd, good to firm) and, although the going will be different today, is worth the chance to underline the merit of that success. Bee Eight was 3¾l seventh to Launfal at Windsor (5f 10yd, good to firm), which does not look good enough, but Great White, 2¼l third to Alfailak at Newmarket (5f, good), showed good pace for much of the race and can improve.

2.30 EBF INSULPAK SWINLEY STAKES BBC2 (Listed race: 3-Y-O: £13,745: 1m rnd) (7 runners)

201 (6) 0-1 CASSANDRA GO 14 (G) (T Stewart) G Wragg 8-11 M Roberts
202 (7) 1- EDEN 179 (S) (L Marinopoulos) L Cumani 8-11 R Ffrench 51
203 (4) 1-4 HI NICKY 9 (F) (D Bell) M Ryan 8-11 P McCabe 64
204 (5) 3 INSINUATE 14 (K Abdulla) H Cecil 8-11 K Fallon 66
205 (2) 10- JIG 279 (S) (H R H Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 8-11 J Fortune 17
206 (1) 0-6 PEARL BARLEY 14 (S Manana) C Brittain 8-11 P Robinson 81
207 (3) 1 SWEET EMOTION 14 (D,G) (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 8-11 G Carter 52

BETTING: 9-4 Cassandra Go, 11-4 Insinuate, 9-2 Eden, 7-1 Jig, Sweet Emotion, 10-1 Pearl Barley, 16-1 Hi Nicky.

CASSANDRA GO beat Musical Treat a neck in a maiden at Newmarket (7f, good) with Insinuate (levels) 2¾l 3rd and Pearl Barley (levels) 4½l 6th. She can confirm the form, although Insinuate, who could be better for the experience, cannot be underestimated. Eden beat Sea Picture ¾l in a maiden at Newmarket (7f, good to soft) and is another with scope to improve, as is Sweet Emotion, who beat Cloudy Sky 1¾l in a maiden stakes at Newmarket (1m, good), although her low action raises the question of whether she will be as well suited by this softer surface. Hi Nicky has to improve a 6½l fourth to Sampower Star at Windsor (6f, good to firm), and Jig sets a poser. She won at Newmarket (5f, soft) before finishing 22l last of seven in a listed race at Sandown (7f 16yd, good to firm). She is not easy to assess.

3.05 INSULPAK SAGARO STAKES BBC1 (Group III: £25,000: 2m 45yd) (9 runners)

301 (6) 52436- CANON CAN 207 (C,D,F,G,S) (Canon (Anglia) OA Ltd) H Cecil 6-8-12 K Fallon 119
302 (5) 60322- CELERIC 207 (C,D,F,G) (C Spence) J Dunlop 7-8-12 T Quinn
303 (9) 11030- MARIDPOUR 207 (CD,G,S) (HRH Aga Khan) Sir M Stoute 4-8-12 M J Kinane 103
304 (4) 2/211- MAWARED 289 (D,F,G) (H al-Maktoum) J Dunlop 6-8-12 R Hills 112
305 (3) 2053-1 SAMRAAN 25 (C,D,F,G,S) (K M Al-Mudhaf) J Dunlop 6-8-12 J Fortune 133
306 (1) d11130- SAN SEBASTIAN 198 (B,C,G,S) (Mrs M Watt) M Grassick (Ire) 5-8-12 E Ahern 88
307 (8) 4/5-23 SHAYA 11 (G) (Sawyer Whatley Partnership) G Bravery 5-8-12 M Fenton 114
308 (2) 14131- SPIRIT OF LOVE 193 (CD,F,G) (A Robinson) M Johnston 4-8-9 D Holland 127
309 (7) 8503-2 THE GLOW-WORM 11 (S) (Hon Mrs J Corbett & J Hanson) B Hills 4-8-9 M Hills 128

BETTING: 7-2 Celeric, 4-1 Canon Can, 6-1 Mawared, 13-2 Spirit Of Love, 7-1 Samraan, The Glow-Worm, 10-1 Maridpour, San Sebastian, 12-1 Shaya.

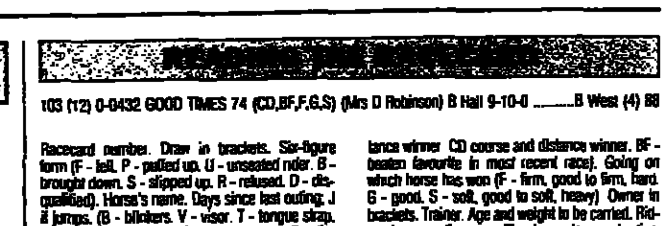
1998 (transferred to Newmarket Guineas meeting) PERSIAN PUNCH 5-9-1 K Fallon (4-1) D Elsworth 10 ran

A cracking renewal which features a trio of Royal Ascot winners. John Dunlop sets a poser by running three — Celeric, Mawared and Samraan. Celeric, the 1997 Gold Cup winner, failed to win last year and invariably needs a run or two before hitting peak form while Mawared, stepping up in class, would prefer faster ground. Samraan has a poor wins to runs ratio but did master three inferior opponents at Haydock (2m, soft) this month. The one to beat, though, is SPIRIT OF LOVE. Mark Johnston's charge thrived on his racing last year and capped a fine campaign by routing his rivals, who included San Sebastian, winner of the Ascot Stakes last term, in the Cesarewitch at Newmarket (2m 2f). This will be his first test outside handicap company but he's a relentless galloper and, proven on easy ground, can take this before going on to even greater things. Maridpour, who landed the Queen's Vase at the Royal meeting last year, is suited by some give underfoot and may emerge as the biggest danger. Canon Can, who is usually a front-runner, is game but one-paced while The Glow-Worm and Shaya, second and third respectively to Sadian in the John Porter Stakes at Newbury this month, are unproven over so far.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Wins	Rnrs	%
T Easterby	3	14	21.4	L Dettori	44	197	22.3
J Dunlop	23	131	17.6	M Kinane	26	170	15.3
J Gosden	17	97	17.5	R Hills	20	132	15.2
H Cecil	15	87	17.2	D Holland	9	68	13.2
J Berry	6	36	16.7	K Fallon	16	129	12.4
L Cumani	10	60	16.7	T Quinn	21	178	11.8
W Haggas	3	18	16.7	T Sprake	5	45	11.1

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Cheltenham: 5.25 Shull's Star. 8.15 Whistling Buck. **Exeter:** 2.15 Silent Guns. 2.50 Clan Ross. 3.25 Oneanthreequarters, Thunderpoint. **Kelso:** 5.20 Ninth Symphony, Our Main Man. **Pontefract:** 3.50 Shepherds Rest. 5.20 Protocol, Ra Ra Rasputin.



103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F - fell. P - pulled up. U - unseated rider. B - brought down. S - slipped up. R - refused. D - disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps. (B - blinkers. V - visor. T - tongue strap. H - hood. E - Eyeshield. C - course winner. D - distance winner. CD course and distance winner. BF - beaten favourite in most recent race). Going on which horse has won (F - firm, good to firm, hard. G - good. S - soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight to be carried. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating



3.40 INSULPAK VICTORIA CUP (SHOWCASE HANDICAP AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACE) BBC1 (£22,600: 7f) (20 runners)

401 (6) 0232-5 AL MUALLIM 14 (D,F,G) (Al Muallim Partnership) J W Payne 5-9-10 A McGlone 90
402 (10) /8312- PLAN-B 293 (BF,C,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 4-9-10 L Dettori 104
403 (20) 0060-1 SHOWBOAT 14 (D,F,G) (R Hollingsworth) B Hills 5-9-5 N Pollard (3) 105
404 (18) 20020- CONSORT 179 (D,F) (Mrs S Whitehead) Mrs A Perrett 6-9-4 R Hughes 115
405 (11) 3110-0 SALTY JACK 14 (D,F,G,S) (Salts Of The Earth) V Soane 5-9-1 D Holland 104
406 (15) 2104-3 GRANGEVILLE 14 (BF,D,S) (G Strawbridge) I Balding 4-9-1 K Fallon 112
407 (3) 1500-3 NIGHT OF GLASS 32 (V,D,F,G,S) (K & B Silvester) J Eyre 6-9-0 R Lappin 109
408 (19) 0006-0 CHEWIT 32 (CD,F,G) (Ballard (1834) Ltd) G L Moore 7-9-0 J Fortune 110
409 (1) 05-203 MISTER RAMBO 9 (G) (Abbott Racing Ltd) B Meehan 4-8-13 M J Kinane 109
410 (14) 0020-0 NO EXTRAS 14 (D,F,G,S) (K Higson) G L Moore 9-8-13 R Brisland (7)
411 (9) 532-65 THERHEA 11 (G,S) (R Gudge, C Lewis & M Calvert) B Millman 6-8-10 T Quinn 115
412 (5) 6053-5 WILD SKY 32 (V,T,D,F) (Gold Partnership) M Heaton-Ellis 5-8-7 F Norton 104
413 (17) 480/0- TIGRELLO 359 (F) (A Al-Midani) J Berry 5-8-6 P Fessey 37
414 (7) 1010-0 FAMILY MAN 23 (D,F,G,S) (Family Man Ptnrs) J Fanshawe 6-8-6 R Cochrane 107
415 (16) 50420/ JUST NICK 578 (S) (D Clarke) W Muir 5-8-4 DOUBTFUL –
416 (2) 2321-2 GREAT NEWS 20 (D,G) (Mrs C Bothway) I Balding 4-8-3 A Nicholls (5) 105
417 (8) 46-600 GIFT OF GOLD 23 (D,F,S) (Classic Gold) A Bailey 4-8-3 A Mackay 110
418 (12) 0000-0 THE DOWNTOWN FOX 33 (B,D,S) (J McMahon) B McMahon 4-8-1 L Charnock 107
419 (4) 0160-6 ARTERXERXES 20 (D,F) (S Tindall & Partners) M Heaton-Ellis 6-8-1 A Daly (3) 98
420 (13) 34-346 VASARI 23 (G) (L Bennett) W Musson 5-7-11 J Quinn 116

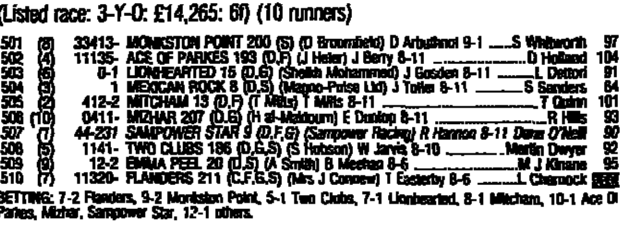
BETTING: 8-1 Night Of Glass, 9-1 Showboat, Al Muallim, Plan-B, 10-1 Salty Jack, Chewit, Family Man, Great News, 12-1 Grangeville, Therhea, 14-1 others.

Plan-B was a short head second to Minella in a handicap Newmarket (1m, good to firm) on his final start last term, but had previously beaten Panter ¾l in a mile handicap here. Showboat beat Temeraire a short head in a handicap at Newmarket (7f, good) with Al Muallim (5lb better off) 2¾l fifth, Salty Jack (6lb better off) 7l eighth and No Extras (6lb better off) 9½l twelfth. Showboat has been raised 5lb for that win, but is still not badly treated on his form of two years ago and can confirm the placings with those behind. Grangeville ended last season with a 2l fourth to Prince Babar in a handicap at Newmarket (7f, good) with Mister Rambo (2lb better off) 4l fifth, Chewit (8lb better off) 5½l tenth, Showboat (levels) 7l twelfth. However, the key could be the Lincoln at Doncaster (1m, good to soft) in which NIGHT OF GLASS (nap) was 1½l third to Right Wing with Wild Sky (1lb better off) 2¾l fifth, Therhea (2lb better off) 6¾l sixth and Chewit (1lb better off) 8¼l seventh. Night Of Glass is suited by a fast pace and is ideally produced late. The mile at Doncaster may have been just beyond his best, and this shorter trip can see him successful. Family Man is another to relish a fast pace over 7f and his reappearance, over 6f at Kempton, will have put an edge on him.

4.10 GARDNER MERCHANT PAVILION STAKES BBC2 (Listed race: 3-Y-O: £14,265: 6f) (10 runners)

501 (8) 33413- MONKSTON POINT 200 (S) (D Broomfield) D Arbuthnot 9-1 S Whitworth 97
502 (4) 11135- ACE OF PARKES 193 (D,F) (J Heler) J Berry 8-11 D Holland 104
503 (6) 0-1 LIONHEARTED 15 (D,G) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 8-11 L Dettori 91
504 (3) 1 MEXICAN ROCK 8 (D,S) (Magno-Pulse Ltd) J Toller 8-11 S Sanders 64
505 (2) 412-2 MITCHAM 13 (D,F) (T Mills) T Mills 8-11 T Quinn 101
506 (10) 0411- MIZHAR 207 (D,G) (H al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 8-11 R Hills 93
507 (1) 44-231 SAMPOWER STAR 9 (D,F,G) (Sampower Racing) R Hannon 8-11 Dane O'Neill 90
508 (5) 1141- TWO CLUBS 186 (D,G,S) (S Hobson) W Jarvis 8-10 Martin Dwyer 92
509 (9) 12-2 EMMA PEEL 20 (D,S) (A Smith) B Meehan 8-6 M J Kinane 95
510 (7) 11320- FLANDERS 211 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs J Conroy) T Easterby 8-6 L Charnock

BETTING: 7-2 Flanders, 9-2 Monkston Point, 5-1 Two Clubs, 7-1 Lionhearted, 8-1 Mitcham, 10-1 Ace Of Parkes, Mizhar, Sampower Star, 12-1 others.



Flanders, whose victories last season included the Windsor Castle Stakes at the Royal meeting, has a clear chance at the weights but her best form is at the minimum trip and it could be that MITCHAM proves the strongest. He did little wrong last term (including when ¾l second to Compton Arrow over course and distance on soft ground in September) and ran a race full of promise on his reappearance when narrowly failing to peg back Munjiz, under topweight, in a competitive handicap at Newmarket (6f) this month. Compensation awaits here. Mizhar, winner of his final two starts at Nottingham and Newmarket last season, Two Clubs, whose only defeat in 1998 came when she was slow away in a valuable event at Redcar, and Lionhearted, always travelling well when winning a maiden at the Craven meeting this month, are other likeable individuals. Monkston Point has a bit to do under his penalty while Sampower Star has more to do than when winning at Windsor last time

4.40 MITSUBISHI DIAMOND VISION STAKES (£6,257: 1m rnd) (5 runners)

601 (1) 3303-0 DUCK ROW 14 (D,S) (Duke of Devonshire) J Toller 4-8-9 S Sanders
602 (3) 0316-1 RIGHT WING 32 (V,CD,F,S) (Earl Cadogan) J Dunlop 5-8-9 T Quinn 128
603 (4) 15121- SUGARFOOT 203 (CD,F,G) (Mrs D Wright) N Tinkler 5-8-9 M J Kinane 121
604 (5) 12/220- TRANS ISLAND 353 (F,G,S) (Al Muallim Partnership) I Balding 4-8-9 K Fallon –
605 (2) 33231- RISQUE LADY 214 (CD,F,G) (M Godwin) P Harris 4-8-4 R Cochrane 131

BETTING: 5-2 Right Wing, 11-4 Duck Row, 4-1 Sugarfoot, 5-1 Risque Lady, Trans Island.

Duck Row is useful but was disappointing when 7¾l last of ten to Shiva in a group III stakes at Newmarket (1m 110yd, good) on his reappearance. Right Wing was given a beautifully judged ride to beat Captain Scott ½l in the Lincoln at Doncaster (1m, good to soft) and has his ground again. Sugarfoot was in cracking form last season, ending it when beating China Red 1¾l in a handicap at York (7f 202yd, good) with Right Wing (1lb better off) 5¾l sixth. However, preference is for TRANS ISLAND, 1½l second to the high-class Desert Prince in a handicap at Newmarket (7f, soft) on his debut last season. He was not disgraced subsequently in good races abroad. Risque Lady beat Confidante 1½l over the straight mile here (good) but has a bit to find with Right Wing, who is 4lb better off for beating her a neck into third in a handicap at Doncaster (1m, good to firm).

5.15 WHITE ROSE HANDICAP (£7,978: 1m str) (30 runners)

1 (3) 1530-4 STORM CRY 5 (D,F) (M Saunders) M Saunders 4-9-13 J Fortune 78
2 (10) 5246-6 STOPWATCH 14J (D,S) (Stopwatch Ptnrs) Mrs L Jewell 4-9-12 Martin Dwyer –
3 (17) -13156 PAS DE MEMOIRES 23 (N Shields) K Burke 4-9-11 N Callan (5) 97
4 (15) 1000-5 INDIUM 8 (D,G) (Magnificent Seven Syndicate) W Musson 5-9-10 D Holland 77
5 (30) 04603- YEAST 195 (CD,F,S) (Not Over Big Partnership) W Haggas 7-9-10 M Hills 95
6 (29) 0040-0 KING OF TUNES 11 (CD,G,S) (Mrs E Sheehan) J Sheehan 7-9-9 A Clark 91
7 (28) 33010- ROGER ROSS 193 (CD,F,S) (H Lawrence) R Flower 4-9-9 P Dobbs (7) 91
8 (12) 0-5000 SUPER MONARCH 11 (D,G) (Chelgate PR) K Burke 5-9-7 K Fallon 79
9 (13) 154-26 ZURS 7 (D,F,S) (C Steward) J R Poulton 6-9-6 R Cochrane 85
10 (27) 6100-0 SAFEY ANA 20 (D,F,G) (Optimists Racing Ptnrs) B Hanbury 8-9-5 W Ryan 87
11 (1) 0654-0 BROUGHTONS TURMOIL 20 (CD,G) (R Marlow) B Millman 10-9-4 T Sprake 93
12 (8) 20000- SAIFAN 167 (V,D,F,G) (D Morris) D Morris 10-9-4 L Dettori 86
13 (14) 42-030 SCENE 11 (BF,D,G,S) (P Dixon) J Glover 4-9-4 S Sanders 84
14 (24) 05040- AUTUMN COVER 151J (D,F,G) (G Alexander) P Hedger 7-9-3 T Quinn 79
15 (25) 132606 TOPTON 33 (B,G) (L Sheridan) P Howling 5-9-1 M Roberts 100
16 (20) 0-1030 KENNET 11 (Miss M Fraser) P Cundell 4-9-1 J Quinn 84
17 (22) 40420- MR MAJICA 255 (D,F) (One Under The Eight) A McNae 5-8-13 Dane O'Neill 88
18 (11) 000122 INDIAN BLAZE 8 (S) (Braves) D Elsworth 5-8-13 N Pollard (3) 84
19 (23) 4410-0 MARSKE MACHINE 14 (B,G,S) (Marske Machine) N Tinkler 4-8-13 M J Kinane 94
20 (7) 536-00 HARMONY HALL 9 (G) (E Hayward) J Bradley 5-8-13 G Carter 82
21 (6) 1-0000 RITUAL 15 (D) (G Jackman) S Dow 4-8-13 P Doe (3) 74
22 (4) 200-40 ELBA MAGIC 7 (F,G) (G Mitchell) C Dwyer 4-8-12 P McCabe 99
23 (2) 0210-2 CA'D'ORO 8 (D,F,G,S) (Miss B Swire) G Balding 6-8-10 P P Murphy (3) 88
24 (26) 00000- TARSKI 200 (F) (E Gadsden & Mrs M Fairburn) L Cottrell 5-8-8 J Lowe 95
25 (16) 10006- BARREN LANDS 187 (S) (Mrs E Ellis) K Bishop 4-8-8 R Perham 92
26 (19) 1-5153 LYCIAN 60 (D,F,G) (A Ilsley) J Toller 4-8-5 S Whitworth
27 (18) 0005-2 INTERNAL AFFAIR 19 (W Haggas) W Haggas 4-8-2 P Robinson 90
28 (9) 300-00 ALFAHAAL 16 (D,F,S) (M Fouger) C Dwyer 4-8-2 A Mackay 70
29 (5) 204352 JIBEREEN 23 (BF,D,F,G,S) (L Sheridan) P Howling 7-7-13 R Ffrench 103
30 (21) 0000-5 ARTFUL DANE 16 (V,D,F) (SP Lansdown) M Heaton-Ellis 7-7-11 F Norton 71

BETTING: 10-1 Roger Ross, Broughtons Turmoil, 12-1 Storm Cry, Yeast, Zurs, Topton, Ca'd'oro, 14-1 Autumn Cover, 16-1 others.

ZURS was given an indifferent ride by his young jockey at Epsom last week (held up in a falsely-run race) and, with Ray Cochrane now taking over in the saddle, can prove that running all wrong. Before his latest outing he had run a cracker at Doncaster (1m, softish ground) when making Bomb Alaska, the subsequent Spring Cup winner, pull out all the stops. Topton (sixth that day) and King Of Tunes (fifteenth) were both behind that day. Zurs is drawn towards the middle and hopefully Cochrane will jink right from the stalls because the likely pacemakers — Yeast (drawn 30), Autumn Cover (24), and Kennet (20) — are all drawn high. Roger Ross, who chalked up four wins last term, including a 20-runner handicap over course and distance in October where Tarski was well behind, is feared most.

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هكذا من الأصل

CRICKET

Stewart to bid for urgent net profit

By Geoffrey Dean

ALEC STEWART has withdrawn from Surrey's PPP County Championship match at Northampton today after the death of his paternal grandmother at the weekend. The funeral is expected to take place later this week.

The England captain, suffering from an acute shortage of runs for both country and county since the Melbourne Test in December, is aiming to arrange some net sessions at the Oval before Sunday, when the World Cup squad meet up at Canterbury in preparation for their three warm-up games against counties. All the other England players will be turning out for their counties this week in a full programme of championship matches.

One former England cricketer, Mark Lathwell, may be out for the rest of the season because of a knee injury sustained on Somerset's pre-season tour to South Africa. The county is still awaiting the surgeon's report after an operation at the weekend, but Jamie Cox, his captain, said yesterday that he was 80 per cent certain that Lathwell would miss the entire season. "Mark has damaged his anterior cruciate ligament, which is one of the worst knee injuries you can get," Cox said.

Eight championship games begin today and a ninth, between Somerset and Yorkshire, starts tomorrow. Leicestershire, the leaders, include Alan Mullally for the first time this season in their match at Grace Road against Lancashire. Jimmy Ormond is likely to step down with Matt Brimson and Jon Dakin contesting the final place.

Warwickshire will be without Keith Piper, their wicketkeeper, for the visit to Chelmsford. Piper, who batted so well at No 5 for his 66 against Somerset last week, has since suffered a recurrence of an old back ligament injury. By wearing special insoles in his boots, thereby realigning both hip and back, he managed to solve the problem last year, but he lost the insoles on the county's pre-season tour to South Africa. Thinking that he was permanently cured, he did not replace them on his return home and has paid the price.

Matthew Fleming, the Kent captain, has an enviable dilemma as far as selection is concerned for the home match with Derbyshire. "With Mark Ealham back and Julian Thompson fit again, I've got 13 fit players vying for 11 places, which is a healthy situation," Fleming said. "I am very pleased with the attitude shown by everyone at the club this season."

Another happy captain is Jason Gallian, of Nottinghamshire. So pleased was he with Chris Read's first innings at No 6 for the county last week, when he made 28 against Leicestershire, that Gallian intends to let the wicketkeeper, 20, keep his place in the batting order.

"Chris has come on in leaps and bounds with the bat — that was a good knock in difficult conditions at Leicester and he handled himself very well," Gallian said. Read's promotion will be viewed with interest by the England selectors, who are thought to favour him as Stewart's long-term successor behind the stumps, if he can improve his batting.

With so little cricket having been played so far this season because of the weather, counties have encouragingly few injuries to report. However, Sussex will be without Jason Lewry, their strike bowler, for the visit to Glamorgan, where Tony Cottey makes an immediate return to face his old county. The good news for Sussex supporters is that Lewry is expected to be fit for their next championship game, against Gloucestershire on May 19.

TONY WHITE



Lathwell is likely to miss the whole season after having an operation on his injured knee at the weekend

PPP COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP GUIDE

DURHAM v HAMPSHIRE

Chester-le-Street

Overall: Played 6. Durham won 1, Hampshire won 0.
First meeting: 1992.
Trends: Durham drew their only game so far in 1999 and have gone 12 successive matches without a win; Hampshire drew with Kent last week.
Recent meetings: Hampshire are the only county that have never beaten Durham; they should have won last year, but rain and a knock of 97 not out by Martin Speight saved Durham. They also won the 1995 game by an innings.
Man in form: Simon Brown took six for 25 in Durham's previous game.



ESSEX v WARWICKSHIRE

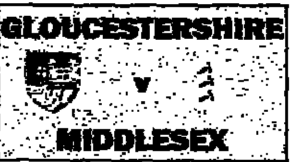
Chelmsford

Overall: Played 106. Essex won 34, Warwickshire won 28.
First meeting: 1895.
Trends: Essex lost their first game this year by an innings, their seventh successive defeat. Warwickshire have had two draws this season, but ended 1998 by beating Kent.
Recent meetings: Essex won in 1998 by two wickets. Brian Lara and his team were booed off the field. Warwickshire won at Chelmsford in 1997. Allan Donald took eight wickets.
Man in form: Dougie Brown (Warwickshire) has hit 142 and 55 not out in his two innings this season.

GLAMORGAN v SUSSEX

Cardiff

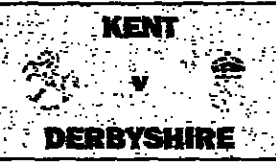
Overall: Played 110, Sussex won 25, Glamorgan won 24.
First meeting: 1921.
Trends: Glamorgan's only game so far this year was drawn. They won their final match of 1998 by 298 runs. Sussex have played two draws.
Recent meetings: Sussex won last year by 18 runs, Robin Martin-Jenkins taking seven for 57 in the final innings. However, Sussex have never beaten Glamorgan at Sophia Gardens.
Man in form: Richard Montgomerie, of Sussex, has hit 183 in his past three innings.



GLOUCESTERSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

Bristol

Overall: Played 170, Middlesex won 82, Gloucestershire won 41.
First meeting: 1879.
Trends: Gloucestershire lost to Yorkshire last week and drew with Surrey the previous week. Middlesex's last game was washed out. Their first of 1999 was also drawn.
Recent meetings: Gloucestershire won in 1998 by 96 runs. Courtney Walsh and Mike Smith took eight wickets apiece. Middlesex have won their past three games at Bristol.
Man in form: Justin Langer, of Middlesex, has hit 296 runs in his two innings of 1999.



KENT v DERBYSHIRE

Canterbury

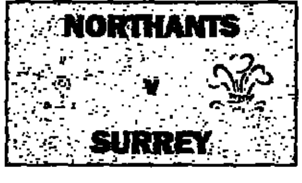
Overall: Played 122, Kent won 50, Derbyshire won 36.
First meeting: 1874.
Trends: Kent have played two draws in 1999. The rain in Derbyshire's one match so far this year allowed for only 69.5 overs to be bowled.
Recent meetings: Rain ruined the 1998 game at Derby, in which Kevin Dean took a hat-trick. The 1997 meeting was also rain-affected. Derbyshire's last win at Canterbury was in 1959. Donald Carr scored a century in each innings.
Man in form: Dominic Cork, of Derbyshire, has produced with bat and ball.



LEICESTERSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

Leicester

Overall: Played 148, Lancashire won 72, Leicestershire won 17.
First meeting: 1895.
Trends: Only 40 overs were bowled in Leicestershire's game last week, but they won their first match of 1999 by an innings. Lancashire have played two games, both rain-affected.
Recent meetings: The two previous meetings were drawn, 1996 because of rain and 1997 owing to high scoring. Lancashire won here in 1995.
Man in form: Chris Lewis, of Leicestershire, hit 139 in his only 1999 innings and has taken seven wickets thus far.



NORTHANTS v SURREY

Northampton

Overall: Played 105, Surrey won 44, Northamptonshire won 20.
First meeting: 1905.
Trends: Northamptonshire have drawn both of their 1999 matches, but won the final two of 1998. Surrey have also drawn both of their games so far this year.
Recent meetings: The 1998 and 1997 games were drawn. Surrey's last success at Northampton came in 1982, when Sylvester Clarke took ten for 109.
Man in form: Mark Butcher, of Surrey, has scored 199 in his three innings so far this season.



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v WORCESTERSHIRE

Trent Bridge

Overall: Played 113, Nottinghamshire won 36, Worcestershire won 33.
First meeting: 1921.
Trends: Nottinghamshire's only 1999 game was a draw. They have gone five matches without a win. Worcestershire have played two draws in 1999, but won their final game of 1998.
Recent meetings: Nottinghamshire won the 1998 game by 90 runs. Chris Tolley took seven for 45 in the final innings. The 1997 game at Trent Bridge was drawn.
Man in form: William Weston, of Worcestershire, has run into form with the bat.



SOMERSET v YORKSHIRE

Taunton, tomorrow

Overall: Played 144, Yorkshire won 82, Somerset won 14.
First meeting: 1891.
Trends: Yorkshire won their only game of 1999 by 81 runs. It was their sixth successive victory. Somerset's only game of 1999 was a rain-affected draw.
Recent meetings: Yorkshire won in 1998 by 215 runs, David Byas scoring 101. Byas also hit a century in Yorkshire's 1997 victory. Somerset won in 1996 and 1995.
Man in form: Gavin Hamilton, of Yorkshire, hit 95 not out and took seven wickets in the last match.

Compiled by Peter Wynne-Thomas

Majority support regional shake-up

Minor Counties Cricket
By Michael Austin

A TWO-DIVISION championship for the minor counties based on merit, not geography as at present, could start next year. A survey of the 20 counties reveals that more than half favour the scheme that, if implemented, would include promotion and relegation, probably two up and two down.

Only six minor counties were against the blueprint, 11 agreed with it, two thought "it was worthy of further careful consideration" and one did not respond to the questionnaire. The consensus of opinion suggests that performances over five seasons should be the yardstick for the make-up of the divisions, although three years' results were thought more appropriate by some. Others believed that placings this summer should be the sole guide.

John Shepperd, the manager of the minor counties, said: "My view is that in the quest for excellence, we should have first and second divisions, but if Cornwall had to travel to Cumberland for a championship match — as they do in the NatWest Trophy next Tuesday — then someone has to pick up the petrol tab."

Amendments for this season, which begins with every minor county competing in the NatWest Trophy for the first time, incorporate the championship final between the eastern and western divisions being played over three days rather than two. Two points will be docked from any team failing to bowl 17 overs an hour in the championship and five points if the rate falls below 16 an hour.

Alan Igglesden, the former Kent and England fast bowler, has joined Berkshire and Martin Saggers, let go by Durham, will play for Lincolnshire.

KELSO

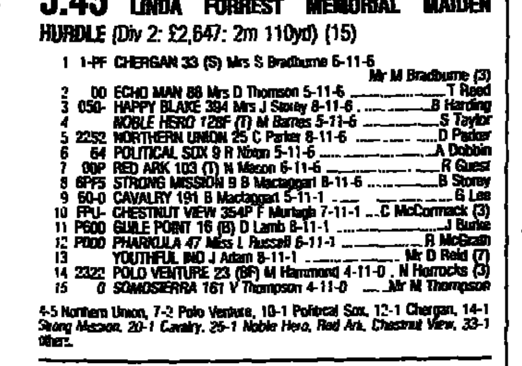
ROB WRIGHT
5.20 Sillymore — 6.50 Eastern Project
5.45 Polo Venture — 7.25 Celtic Duke
8.00 Gallants Delight
6.15 Stash The Cash — 8.30 Jessica One
Carl Evans: 8.00 Gallants Delight.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) — SIS

5.20 LINDA FORREST MEMORIAL MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £2,661: 2m 110yd) (16 runners)

1 P5-6 BIG TARGET 179 (T) R Allan 5-11-6 ... B Harding
2 -000 INGLE DENE 16 B Mactaggart 6-11-6 ... G Lee
3 40 LITTLE WORSALL 23 Miss K Milligan 6-11-6 ... R Guest
4 14-F LOUDY ROWDY 193 (T,BF,D,F,G) J Oliver 8-11-6 ... B Storey
5 0-00 NINTH SYMPHONY 9 (B) Mrs S Horner-Harker 5-11-6 ... A S Smith
6 /240 OPEN FAIRWAY 22 W Storey 6-11-6 ... R McGrath
7 P-PU OUR MAIN MAN 11P (B,S) S R Whitaker 9-11-6 ... T Reed
8 PP00 SMIDDY LAD 9 (T) R Shiels 8-11-6 ... S Melrose (7)
9 00U3 TEZAAB 19 M Barnes 5-11-6 ... S Taylor
10 00 LADY ALICE 9 Miss L Russell 5-11-1 ... D Gallagher
11 6003 LUMBACK LADY 16 B Mactaggart 9-11-1 ... Mr B Gibson (5)
12 3/44 MYLES OF MOSS 38P (BF) D Nolan 9-11-1 ... D Verco
13 3342 SILLYMORE 47 (D,F,S) P Monteith 6-11-1 ... C McCormack (3)
14 000 WORTHY DANCER 58 J Charlton 6-11-1 ... A Dobbin
15 05 THE PRESIDENT 7F Mrs M Reveley 4-11-0 ... P Niven
16 40F3 TOTAL TROPIX 33 Mrs S Bradburne 4-10-9 ... Mr M Bradburne (3)

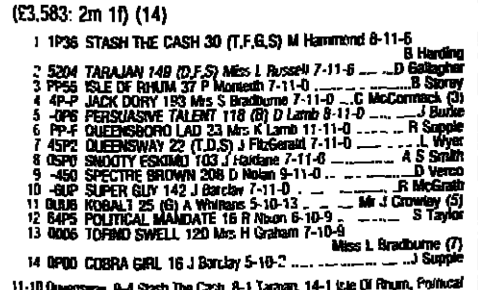
2-1 Sillymore, 7-2 Total Tropix, 5-1 Tezaab, 7-1 Loudy Rowdy, The President, 16-1 Lumback Lady, 20-1 Open Fairway, 25-1 others.



5.45 LINDA FORREST MEMORIAL MAIDEN HURDLE (Div 2: £2,647: 2m 110yd) (15)

1 1-PF CHERGAN 33 (S) Mrs S Bradburne 6-11-6 ... Mr M Bradburne (3)
2 00 ECHO MAN 88 Mrs D Thomson 5-11-6 ... T Reed
3 050- HAPPY BLAKE 394 Mrs J Storey 8-11-6 ... B Harding
4 NOBLE HERO 128F (T) M Barnes 5-11-6 ... S Taylor
5 2252 NORTHERN UNION 25 C Parker 8-11-6 ... D Parker
6 64 POLITICAL SOX 9 R Nixon 5-11-6 ... A Dobbin
7 00P RED ARK 103 (T) N Mason 6-11-6 ... R Guest
8 6PF5 STRONG MISSION 9 B Mactaggart 8-11-6 ... B Storey
9 60-0 CAVALRY 191 B Mactaggart 5-11-1 ... G Lee
10 FPU- CHESTNUT VIEW 354P F Murtagh 7-11-1 ... C McCormack (3)
11 P600 GUILE POINT 16 (B) D Lamb 8-11-1 ... J Burke
12 P000 PHARKULA 47 Miss L Russell 6-11-1 ... R McGrath
13 YOUTHFUL IND J Adam 8-11-1 ... Mr D Reid (7)
14 2322 POLO VENTURE 23 (BF) M Hammond 4-11-0 ... N Horrocks (3)
15 0 SOMOSIERRA 161 V Thompson 4-11-0 ... Mr M Thompson

4-5 Northern Union, 7-2 Polo Venture, 10-1 Political Sox, 12-1 Chergan, 14-1 Strong Mission, 20-1 Cavalry, 25-1 Noble Hero, Red Ark, Chestnut View, 33-1 others.



6.15 STEWART IVORY NOVICES CHASE (£3,583: 2m 1f) (14)

1 1P36 STASH THE CASH 30 (T,F,G,S) M Hammond 8-11-6 ... B Harding
2 5204 TARAJAN 149 (D,F,S) Miss L Russell 7-11-6 ... D Gallagher
3 PP55 ISLE OF RHUM 37 P Monteith 7-11-0 ... B Storey
4 4P-P JACK DORY 193 Mrs S Bradburne 7-11-0 ... C McCormack (3)
5 -0P6 PERSUASIVE TALENT 118 (B) D Lamb 8-11-0 ... J Burke
6 PP-F QUEENSBORO LAD 23 Mrs K Lamb 11-11-0 ... R Supple
7 45P2 QUEENSWAY 22 (T,D,S) J FitzGerald 7-11-0 ... L Wyer
8 0SP0 SNOOTY ESKIMO 103 J Haldane 7-11-0 ... A S Smith
9 -450 SPECTRE BROWN 208 D Nolan 9-11-0 ... D Verco
10 -6UP SUPER GUY 142 J Barclay 7-11-0 ... R McGrath
11 0UU6 KOBALT 25 (G) A Whillans 5-10-13 ... Mr J Crowley (5)
12 64P5 POLITICAL MANDATE 16 R Nixon 6-10-9 ... S Taylor
13 0006 TOFINO SWELL 120 Mrs H Graham 7-10-9 ... Miss L Bradburne (7)
14 0P00 COBRA GIRL 16 J Barclay 5-10-2 ... J Supple

11-10 Queensway, 9-4 Stash The Cash, 8-1 Tarajan, 14-1 Isle Of Rhum, Political Mandate, 20-1 Tofino Swell, 25-1 Snooty Eskimo, Super Guy, 33-1 others.

6.50 ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND HANDICAP HURDLE (£5,129: 2m 110yd) (15)

1 6100 KING OF THIEVES 18 (D,G,S) Miss L Russell 7-12-0 ... D Gallagher
2 33P2 VALEDICTORY 23 (S) P Monteith 6-11-13 ... C McCormack (3)
3 0031 EXECUTIVE DESIGN 23 (D,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-13 ... P Niven
4 4PP1 LORD DORCET 22 (B,CD,F,G,S) J Charlton 9-11-11 ... B Storey
5 4510 HUNTING SLANE 19 (C,F,G,S) C Grant 7-11-10 ... R Supple
6 1523 FARFIELDS PRINCE 22 (BF,D,G) G M Moore 7-11-4 ... J Callaghan
7 0132 WELL APPOINTED 16 (CD,F,G,S) B Mactaggart 10-11-4 ... Mr B Gibson (5)
8 -241 SHINEROLLA 16 (CD,F) C Parker 7-10-11 ... D Parker
9 1333 EASTERN PROJECT 51 (BF,D,F,S) M Hammond 5-10-10 ... B Harding
10 352U XAIPETE 23 (D,F,G,S) N Mason 7-10-8 ... R Guest
11 015F MUTASARRIF 43 (F,G) J Dodds 6-10-7 ... S Melrose (7)
12 4014 GUNNER MARC 23 (BF,D,G) J Jefferson 5-10-2 ... L Wyer
13 40P0 NIJMEGEN 25 (B,D,G,S) J FitzGerald 11-10-1 ... A Dobbin
14 -411 IN GOOD FAITH 9 (D,F,G) R Barr 7-10-1 (6ex) ... N Smith
15 -505 PADDY MAGUIRE 144 (S) L Lungo 6-10-0 ... W Dowling (5)

6-1 Executive Design, 7-1 Well Appointed, 8-1 Valedictory, Lord Dorcet, Hunting Slane, In Good Faith, 10-1 Farfields Prince, Shinerolla, 12-1 others.

7.25 MASON ORGANISATION CENTRE ATTRACTION HANDICAP CHASE (£4,072: 3m 1f) (10)

1 2FP0 SON OF IRIS 25 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 11-11-10 ... P Niven
2 R502 MR KNITWIT 16 (G,S) P Monteith 12-11-4 ... L Wyer
3 42P3 BRIAR'S DELIGHT 16 (V,C,F,G,S) R Allan 11-11-0 ... A Dobbin
4 23P3 NOSAM 11 (F,G,S) N Mason 9-11-0 ... R Guest
5 0110 DISTANT HILLS 39 (G,S) J Dodds 7-10-9 ... R McGrath
6 -246 SILVER STICK 22 (B,F,G,S) M W Easterby 12-10-7 ... A S Smith
7 1352 CELTIC DUKE 23 (F) M Hammond 7-10-4 ... B Harding
8 1F40 LE DENSTAN 23 (F,G,S) B Mactaggart 12-10-0 ... B Storey
9 5431 HARDEN GLEN 16 (CD,F,S) Mrs J Storey 8-10-0 ... Mr C Storey
10 2405 MANHATTAN RAINBOW 33 (V) Mrs S Bradburne 8-10-0 ... Mr M Bradburne (3)

11-4 Son Of Iris, 6-1 Mr Knitwit, 13-2 Nosam, 7-1 Briar's Delight, Celtic Duke, 8-1 Distant Hills, 10-1 Silver Stick, Le Denstan, 12-1 others.

8.00 CHARLIE BROWN UNITED BORDER HUNTERS CHASE (£1,606: 3m 1f) (6)

1 U/11 GALLANTS DELIGHT 16 (CD,F,G,S) R B Johnston 9-12-0 ... Mr A Robson (5)
2 P2-4 ALI'S ALIBI 47 (T,CD,G) Allan Dickman 12-11-13 ... Mr B Gibson (3)
3 5/42 CASTLEROYAL 22 (F,G) B McNichol 10-11-13 ... Mr J Crowley
4 0P4P GRAND AS OWT 37 (T) R Johnson 9-11-13 ... Mr P Johnson (3)
5 -PP0 MAJIC RAIN 16 (C,D,F,G,S) Allan Dickman 14-11-13 ... Mr W L Morgan (7)
6 /P-0 UNOR 70 (T,F,G,S) P Wilson 13-11-13 ... Mr D Reid (7)

4-5 Gallants Delight, 5-2 Castleroyal, 4-1 Ali's Alibi, 25-1 others.

8.30 WELL APPOINTED HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,009: 2m 6f 110yd) (11)

1 6P41 INGLETONIAN 16 (C,F,S) B Mactaggart 10-12-0 ... B Storey
2 4621 HEART OF AVONDALE 16 (CD,F,S) L Lungo 6-11-11 ... Mr B Gibson (5)
3 3401 JESSICA ONE 39 (F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-7 ... M H Naughton (5)
4 5524 LORD PODGSKI 16 (F,G,S) P Monteith 8-11-1 ... D Gallagher
5 0225 COTTSTOWN BOY 12 (CD,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 8-11-0 ... Mr M Bradburne (3)
6 F55P MASTER HYDE 118 (D,F,G) J Goldie 10-10-12 ... A Dobbin
7 F-24 MONTE CRESTA 165 (C,S) Mrs S Bradburne 6-10-0 ... B Harding
8 /P-0 MUZRAK 39 (F) J Jefferson 8-10-0 ... L Wyer
9 -000 TRUMP 67 (F,G,S) C Parker 10-10-0 ... D Parker
10 0352 PLANNING GAIN 16 (C,F,G) T Dun 8-10-0 ... C McCormack (3)
11 0646 THUNDERHEART 16 R Allan 8-10-0 ... N Horrocks (3)

9-4 Heart Of Avondale, 3-1 Jessica One, 7-1 Ingletonian, Cottstown Boy, 8-1 Lord Podgski, 12-1 Master Hyde, 14-1 Monte Cresta, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J FitzGerald, 6 winners from 23 runners, 26.1%; Mrs M Reveley, 28 from 120, 23.3%; M Hammond, 21 from 114, 18.4%; G M Moore, 9 from 49, 18.4%; F Murtagh, 4 from 28, 14.3%; L Lungo, 10 from 81, 12.3%.

JOCKEYS: B Gibson, 7 winners from 20 rides, 35.0%; P Niven, 30 from 116, 25.9%; M Bradburne, 13 from 51, 25.5%; R McGrath, 9 from 49, 18.4%; A Dobbin, 27 from 156, 17.3%; L Wyer, 11 from 70, 15.7%.

PONTEFRACT

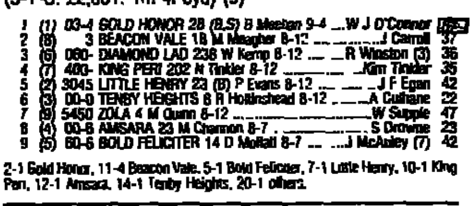
ROB WRIGHT
2.45 Pipadash — 4.20 Bowlers Boy
3.15 Gold Honor — 4.50 Bachelors Pad
3.50 Campaign — 5.20 Diamond Flame

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES)
DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST — SIS

2.45 E.B.F. NOVICE STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,859: 5f) (8 runners)

1 (2) 1 LINCOLN DANCER 23 (D,S) G Lewis 9-5 ... N Day 54
2 (8) 1 SAFFIZZ 30 (D,S) K Ryan 9-2 ... A Culhane —
3 (7) CELEBRATION TOWN J J O'Neill 8-12 ... W Supple —
4 (4) 0 FINGERS HENRY 32 Ron Thompson 8-12 ... L Newton 16
5 (6) 5 LABRETT 14 B Meehan 8-12 ... W J O'Connor 31
6 (1) 1 PIPADASH 25 (D,S) T Easterby 8-11 ... K Darley
7 (5) 21 TARA'S GIRL 14 (D,F) J J Quinn 8-11 ... D Mernagh (5) 57
8 (3) 4 KUUIPO 12 B Rothwell 8-7 ... R Winston (3) 22

9-4 Lincoln Dancer, 11-4 Pipadash, 9-2 Tara's Girl, 13-2 Saffizz, 8-1 Kuuipo, 10-1 Labrett, 16-1 Celebration Town, 25-1 Fingers Henry.



3.15 PLACEPOT SELLING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,301: 1m 4f 8yd) (9)

1 (1) 03-4 GOLD HONOR 28 (B,S) B Meehan 9-4 ... W J O'Connor
2 (8) 3 BEACON VALE 18 M Meagher 8-12 ... J Carroll 37
3 (6) 060- DIAMOND LAD 236 W Kemp 8-12 ... R Winston (3) 36
4 (7) 400- KING PERI 202 N Tinkler 8-12 ... Kim Tinkler 35
5 (2) 3045 LITTLE HENRY 23 (B) P Evans 8-12 ... J F Egan 42
6 (3) 00-0 TENBY HEIGHTS 8 R Hollinshead 8-12 ... A Culhane 22
7 (9) 5450 ZOLA 4 M Quinn 8-12 ... W Supple 47
8 (4) 00-6 AMSARA 23 M Channon 8-7 ... S Drowne 23
9 (5) 60-6 BOLD FELICITER 14 D Moffatt 8-7 ... J McAuley (7) 42

2-1 Gold Honor, 11-4 Beacon Vale, 5-1 Bold Feliciter, 7-1 Little Henry, 10-1 King Peri, 12-1 Amsara, 14-1 Tenby Heights, 20-1 others.

3.50 TOTE MARATHON HANDICAP (£3,850: 2m 5f 122yd) (14)

1 (11) 2/0- HERE COMES HERBIE 397 (G,S) W Storey 7-10-0 ... T Williams —
2 (14) 0052 JAMAICAN FLIGHT 8 (C,F) Mrs S Lamyman 6-9-13 ... A Culhane 75
3 (2) -106 DANEGOLD 12 (F,S) M Channon 7-9-12 ... S Drowne 67
4 (3) 06/6 CAMPAIGN 29 (F) M Hammond 8-9-1 ... K Darley 61
5 (12) 160- SWEET GLOW 13J (F,S) M Pipe 12-9-1 ... W Supple 69
6 (5) 440/ GREYCOAT BOY 14J (F) J King 7-9-0 ... R Havlin —
7 (10) 042- RUSHEN RAIDER 168J (F) K Hogg 7-8-12 ... Dean McKeown 66
8 (7) /0/5 CLAIRESWAN 18 (V,F) Mrs N Macauley 7-8-8 ... R Price 29
9 (9) 00-4 CHARMING ADMIRAL 9J Mrs A Swinbank 6-8-5 ... G Duffield 31
10 (13) /60- TRIBAL MOON 25J J Portman 6-8-5 ... R Winston (3) —
11 (4) 20-0 IMAD 18 (T,F,S) K Comerford 9-8-1 ... R Mullen (3) —
12 (6) 2232 SHEPHERDS REST 8 (V) S Mellor 7-7-11 ... D Mernagh (5)
13 (8) 5324 MUDLARK 8 (V) J Norton 7-7-11 ... N Carlisle 72
14 (1) 0/2/ LAGAN 11J S Gollings 6-7-10 ... A Polli (3) —

7-2 Danegold, 6-1 Jamaican Flight, 13-2 Sweet Glow, 7-1 Campaign, Shepherds Rest, Mudlark, 10-1 Imad, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: S Woods, 6 winners from 18 runners, 33.3%; G Lewis, 4 from 13, 30.8%; R Fahey, 8 from 42, 19.0%; J J Quinn, 6 from 40, 15.0%; P Haslam, 4 from 31, 12.9%; M Bell, 4 from 32, 12.5%; Mrs M Reveley, 12 from 104, 11.5%; M Hammond, 4 from 37, 10.8%; N Tinkler, 5 from 47, 10.6%. Only qualifiers.

JOCKEYS: D Sweeney, 3 winners from 12 rides, 25.0%; N Day, 3 from 20, 15.0%; M Henry, 4 from 27, 14.8%; K Darley, 29 from 214, 13.6%; R Winston, 5 from 38, 13.2%; D Mernagh, 3 from 28, 10.7%. Only qualifiers.

4.20 TOTE BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP (£7,522: 6f) (18)

1 (18) 2-00 FURTHER OUTLOOK 23 (F,G) D Nicholls 5-9-13 ... K Darley 85
2 (8) 1-00 BOWLERS BOY 11 (CD,F,G,S) J J Quinn 6-9-8 ... R Winston (3) 99
3 (13) 0000 PIGEON 11 (D,F,G,S) D Barker 4-9-7 ... T Williams 99
4 (15) 00-0 SWINO 33 (V,D,F,S) P Evans 5-9-6 ... J F Egan 97
5 (10) 0-51 AGENT MULDER 9 (B,D,G,S) P Cundell 5-9-5 (6ex) ... J Carroll 89
6 (16) 0520 PLEADING 9 (BF,CD,S) W Musson 6-9-3 ... W J O'Connor 77
7 (7) 5530 YOUNG BIGWIG 11 (D,F,S) D Chapman 5-9-1 ... A Culhane 100
8 (3) 40-0 MAMMA'S BOY 18 (D,G,S) J Berry 4-9-0 ... O Pears 93
9 (17) 0400 KING UNO 8 (CD,F,G,S) E Alston 5-9-0 ... W Supple 89
10 (11) 136- KINGDOM RUBY 147 (S) Miss J A Camacho 4-8-12 ... R Price 79
11 (1) 000- BEE HEALTH BOY 189 (D,F,S) G Holmes 6-8-11 ... G Parkin 100
12 (5) 1235 MAITEAMIA 21 (B,D,G,S) S Bowring 6-8-11 ... Dean McKeown 99
13 (2) 6-50 COLLEGE DEAN 14 (D,S) J J O'Neill 3-8-8 ... P Goode (5) 71
14 (12) 6121 COOL SECRET 40 (D,F) K Burke 4-8-8 ... D Sweeney
15 (9) 2130 NIFTY NORMAN 29 (D,G,S) D Nicholls 5-8-7 ... J Fanning 96
16 (5) 0530 SAN MICHEL 7 (B,BF,G) J Eyre 7-8-5 ... N Day 77
17 (14) 6-40 MOET 23 (D,G) J Eyre 4-8-4 ... C Lowther 92
18 (4) 1102 MUTABARI 19 (V) Mrs S Lamyman 5-8-3 ... G Duffield 89

6-1 Cool Secret, 13-2 Agent Mulder, 7-1 Mutabari, 8-1 Maiteamia, 10-1 Pleading, Kingdom Ruby, 12-1 Young Bigwig, King Uno, San Michel, 14-1 others.

4.50 DUAL FORECAST CLASSIFIED STAKES (£2,463: 1m 4yd) (19)

1 (2) 0041 GENUINE JOHN 14 (D,F,G) J Parkes 6-9-10 ... J Fanning 74
2 (12) 0-06 BACHELORS PAD 12 (F) D Nicholls 5-9-8 ... Alex Greaves 82
3 (5) 4052 FUTURE PROSPECT 51 (CD,F,S) M A Buckley 5-9-8 ... J Carroll 73
4 (9) 050- KNOBBLEENEEZE 219 (V,D,F,G,S) M Channon 9-9-8 ... S Drowne 79
5 (11) 0-04 MARGARET'S DANCER 12 (T,CD,F,G,S) J Eyre 4-9-8 ... C Lowther 75
6 (16) 000- NIGHT CHORUS 188 (D,S) B Rothwell 5-9-8 ... F Lynch 79
7 (17) 000- PREMIUM PURSUIT 215 (G) R Fahey 4-9-8 ... P Hanagan (7) 83
8 (14) 000- RARE TALENT 211 (F,G) S Gollings 5-9-8 ... W J O'Connor 75
9 (18) 000/ TIME IS MONEY 1287 M Tompkins 7-9-8 ... G Bardwell —
10 (19) -060 TORNADO PRINCE 18 (F) E Alston 4-9-8 ... W Supple 66
11 (10) 045- BESEECHING 190 J Toller 4-9-5 ... J F Egan 54
12 (4) 31-4 BIRTHDAY VENTURE 22 S Woods 4-9-5 ... G Duffield 59
13 (7) 200- GYMCRAK FLYER 194 (CD,F,G) G Holmes 8-9-5 ... R Winston (3)
14 (15) 06-0 ALLRIGHTHEN 22 T Wall 3-8-8 ... Dean McKeown 53
15 (3) 4-40 ASH MILLSHAW 7 (S) R Hollinshead 3-8-8 ... P M Quinn (7) 56
16 (8) 00-0 LION CUB 23 (T) R McGhin 3-8-8 ... Dale Gibson 51
17 (13) 06-0 MAN OF THE NIGHT 28 (S) J J O'Neill 3-8-8 ... K Darley 64
18 (1) 0000 FAMILY TREE 7 (D,S) D Chapman 3-8-5 ... A Culhane 71
19 (6) 06-0 SCOOP 14 (C,G) S Kettlewell 3-8-5 ... R FitzPatrick (5) 76

5-1 Bachelors Pad, 6-1 Margaret's Dancer, 7-1 Gymcrak Flyer, 8-1 Birthday Venture, 10-1 Scoop, 12-1 Knobbleeneeze, Beseeching, Ash Millshaw, 14-1 others.

5.20 TOTE CREDIT CLUB HANDICAP (£4,468: 1m 2f 6yd) (18)

1 (7) 0-00 PROTOCOL 72 (V,D) Mrs S Lamyman 5-10-0 ... C Teague (3) 57
2 (14) 03/0 EMPIRE PARK 14 T Easterby 4-10-0 ... J Carroll 58
3 (9) 5040 DIAMOND FLAME 11 (D) P Harris 5-9-13 ... G Duffield 72
4 (13) -600 STAR MANAGER 15 (G,S) R Spicer 9-9-10 ... S Carson (5) 87
5 (16) 0114 SWIFT 21 (BF,D,F,G,S) M Polglase 5-9-10 ... K Darley 86
6 (18) 60-1 LEGAL ISSUE 12 (C,D,S) B Rothwell 7-9-10 ... R Winston (3) 82
7 (2) 02-2 SHAFFISHAYES 11 (C,D,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-9-9 ... Dean McKeown 82
8 (15) 10-0 ABSALOM'S LAD 95 P Harris 4-9-7 ... A Culhane 57
9 (17) 330- WARNING REEF 186 (F,G,S) E Alston 6-9-6 ... W Supple 87
10 (4) -042 ASPIRANT DANCER 7 (D,S) M Bell 4-9-5 ... R Mullen (3) 65
11 (1) 4000 MIGWAR 21 (D,F) N Littmoden 6-9-2 ... T G McLaughlin 82
12 (3) 2-00 RA RA RASPUTIN 12 (B) B McMahon 4-8-7 ... J F Egan 76
13 (8) 0000 TYPHOON EIGHT 21 (B,T,G) D Nicholls 7-8-2 ... J Fanning 79
14 (11) 60/0 RING OF VISION 22J (D,F) J J Quinn 7-7-10 ... M Henry 48
15 (5) 0/0- TREMENDISTO 21J T Wall 9-7-10 ... P Bradley (7) —
16 (12) -000 SPARKLING HARRY 53 Miss L Siddall 5-7-10 ... N Kennedy
17 (6) -000 POLAR REFRAIN 51 (S) J Eyre 6-7-10 ... D Glennon (7) 67
18 (10) 00-6 GET A LIFE 61 G Woodward 6-7-10 ... G Bardwell 68

9-2 Swift, 5-1 Aspirant Dancer, 7-1 Diamond Flame, Legal Issue, 8-1 Shaffishayes, Warning Reef, 10-1 Empire Park, Absalom's Lad, 12-1 others.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Bath

Going: soft

2.00 (1m 2f 46yd) 1, **MIGRATION** (T Sprake, 11-4 fav); 2, **Sarangani** (K Fallon, 7-2); 3, **Grosvenor Flyer** (J Fortune, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 13-2 De Balliol (6th), 8 Prince Slayer (5th), 10 Azimah, Kali, 16 Woodcote Warrior, 20 Ashgar (4th), 33 Power Hit, 100 Dashing, Northwing. 12 ran. 2l, 7l, 2½l, nk, 4l. R Charlton at Beckhampton. Tote: £3.90; £1.50, £1.60, £1.90. DF: £6.80. CSF: £11.85.

2.30 (1m 2f 46yd) 1, **DEAL FAIR** (K Fallon, 8-11 fav); 2, **Culzean** (Dane O'Neill, 9-2); 3, **Bring Sweets** (M Hills, 100-30). ALSO RAN: 9-1 Marmaduke (5th), 20 Pride of Dingle (4th). 5 ran. 1¼l, ½l, 24l, ½l. H Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £1.70; £1.10, £2.50. DF: £3.50. CSF: £4.31.

3.00 (5f 11yd) 1, **CARHUE LASS** (K Fallon, 5-2); 2, **Inya Lake** (T Quinn, 6-5 fav); 3, **Ellway Star** (W Ryan, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 7-1 Kastaway (4th), 11 Eastern Lyric (5th). 5 ran. 3l, 1¼l, sl, 2½l. Patrick O'Leary at Friarstown, Co Kildare. Tote: £3.10; £1.60, £1.10. DF: £1.70. CSF: £5.29.

3.30 (1m 3f 144yd) 1, **HEART** (K Fallon, 5-2 fav); 2, **Misconduct** (J Quinn, 9-2); 3, **Hill Farm Blues** (A Garth, 13-2). ALSO RAN: 7-1 Raspberry Sauce (4th), 8 Phantom Waters, 12 Magical Dancer, 14 Cabcharge Blue (5th), Mary Cult, 16 Shanghai Lil, 20 Beacon Silver, Tui (6th), 33 Forte Lady, Lateen, Royal Signet. 14 ran. 4l, 3½l, 3½l, 1¼l, 4l. G Butler at Didcot. Tote: £4.20; £1.90, £2.20, £2.30. DF: £7.20. CSF: £11.83. Tricast: £62.54.

4.00 (5f 11yd) 1, **ROO** (A Nicholls, 12-1); 2, **Mentiga** (M Fenton, 5-2 fav); 3, **Loch Inch** (A Daly, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 Bosscat (6th), 100-3 Lord Bankes (5th), 12 Cookie, 14 Magic Grand, Namaqualass (4th), 16 Miss Millennium, Step Up, 25 Bossy Spice, Salan Blues, 33 Baby Barry, Chicago Blues, Step Ahead. 15 ran. NR: Dancing Ridge, Nantucket. 4l, 2½l, ½l, nk, 1l. R Johnson Houghton at Didcot. Tote: £15.20; £3.30, £1.40, £3.90. DF: £65.00. CSF: £41.37.

4.30 (5f 11yd) 1, **HARVEY'S FUTURE** (A Polli, 9-1); 2, **Present 'n Correct** (C Carver, 14-1); 3, **Tinker Osmaston** (J Savage, 7-1); 4, **Forgotten Times** (A Nicholls, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 4-1 fav Samwar, 6 Baptismal Rock (6th), 13-2 Piccolo Cativo (5th), 10 Vice Presidential, 16 Bramble Bear, Purnadas Road, Rita's Rock Ape, 20 Ballasilla, Johnny Staccato, Live To Tell, 25 Kalnnes Pet, Miss Dangerous, Tika, 33 Wry Ardour. 18 ran. ½l, 1¼l, hd, 1l, hd. P Gilligan at Newmarket. Tote: £9.70; £2.40, £3.60, £2.40, £4.90. DF: £77.70. CSF: £114.90. Tricast: £905.43.

5.00 (1m 2f 46yd) 1, **RADA'S DAUGHTER** (K Fallon, 3-1 fav); 2, **Hathni Khound** (J Lowe, 33-1); 3, **Brave Vision** (S Sanders, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 4-1 Fizzygig (4th), 6 Lucky Linda, 7 Natalie Jay (6th), 9 Rose Hill, 10 Odyssey (5th), 12 Bitter Sweet, 20 Cabaret Quest, Mill Afrique, 50 Who Goes There. 12 ran. NR: Bob's Princess. 3l, nk, 2½l, 2½l, 6l. I Balding at Kingsclere. Tote: £4.20; £1.40, £6.50, £3.30. DF: £105.90. CSF: £112.73. Tricast: £614.55.

Placepot: £34.20 — **Quadpot: £13.20**

Nottingham

Going: heavy

2.15 (6f 15yd) 1, **Petit Palais** (W J O'Connor, 7-1); 2, Lament (14-1); 3, Spill The Acc (4-1 fav). 14 ran. 1l, 8l. B Meehan. Tote: £4.40; £2.00, £4.60, £2.00. DF: £67.20. CSF: £92.73.

2.45 (6f 15yd) 1, **Oriel Girl** (P McCabe, 9-1); 2, Ameena (11-1); 3, General Klaire (7-2 fav). 13 ran. NR: Mysticism. Nk, ½l. M Ryan. Tote: £9.50; £3.10, £4.00, £1.70. DF: £65.00. CSF: £95.09. Tricast: £382.39.

3.15 (5f 13yd) 1, **Barringer** (L Detton, 8-11 fav); 2, Distinctly Well (8-1); 3, Pheasy (9-2). 11 ran. 3l, 2½l. M Channon. Tote: £1.50; £1.10, £3.30, £1.50. DF: £5.50. CSF: £7.40.

3.45 (1m 54yd) 1, **My Tess** (K Darley, 13-2); 2, Red Roses (25-1); 3, Mishor (14-1). Chambre Separee (5th) 8-11 fav. 7 ran. NR: Marny Me. 1½l, ½l. B McMahon. Tote: £5.50; £1.90, £4.10. DF: £39.10. CSF: £122.32.

4.15 (1m 54yd) 1, **Leave It To Me** (G Duffield, 5-1); 2, Redouble (14-1); 3, Angie Marinie (11-2). Hadeqa (6th) 11-4 fav. 15 ran. NR: Ace of Trumps, Oregon Dream, Top of The Charts. Nk, nk. S Woods. Tote: £5.10; £1.90, £6.40, £2.70. DF: £29.10. CSF: £65.11. Tricast: £374.20.

4.45 (1m 1f 213yd) 1, **Clued Up** (J F Egan, 100-30); 2, Celestial Welcome (15-8 jt-fav); 3, Top Jem (15-8 jt-fav). 5 ran. 3l, 3l. P Evans. Tote: £2.70; £1.40, £2.60. DF: £6.50. CSF: £9.46.

5.20 (1m 6f 15yd) 1, **Flying Flip** (K Darley, 11-2); 2, Kilbury (7-2 fav); 3, Get The Point (10-1). 14 ran. 7l, 2l. B Morgan. Tote: £7.30; £2.90, £1.60, £5.10. DF: £14.60. CSF: £25.64. Tricast: £186.68.

Jackpot: £54,350.20 — part won (pool of £32,150.82 carried forward to Ascot today).
Placepot: £222.60 — **Quadpot: £20.60**

Windsor

Going: good to soft, soft on top bend

5.30 (5f 10yd) 1, **Boleyn Castle** (T Quinn, 4-1); 2, Knockdopher Abbey (16-1); 3, Cd Flyer (100-30 fav). 16 ran. NR: Shaw Venture. Nk, hd. T Mills. Tote: £4.20; £1.90, £4.20, £1.80. DF: £47.50. CSF: £58.03.

6.00 (1m 3f 135yd) 1, **Mane Frame** (C Rutter, 15-8 fav); 2, Duello (11-2); 3, Dalby of York (7-2). 10 ran. 2½l, 3l. H Morrison. Tote: £2.60; £1.10, £2.50, £1.30. DF: £6.10. CSF: £10.53.

6.30 (1m 67yd) 1, **Sweet Pea** (T Quinn, 4-1 jt-fav); 2, Bird Of Prey (14-1); 3, Brenda Dee (20-1). Respond 4-1 jt-fav. 9 ran. 6l, hd. J Dunlop. Tote: £4.10; £1.70, £4.70, £2.00. DF: £64.60. CSF: £54.37. Tricast: £905.59.

Huntingdon

Going: good

5.15 (3m ch) 1, **Joint Account** (Mrs F Needham, 6-4 fav); 2, Buzz O'The Crowd (7-1); 3, King Torus (9-4). 9 ran. 13l, 2l. Mrs F Needham. Tote: £2.30; £1.10, £2.60, £1.40. DF: £8.70. CSF: £10.22.

5.45 (3m ch) 1, **Donallach Mor** (Miss S Vickery, 6-1); 2, Salin Lover (7-4 fav); 3, Kellys Original (14-1). 9 ran. 8l, 1¼l. Miss Venetia Williams. Tote: £5.00; £1.60, £1.50, £1.80. DF: £7.80. CSF: £15.41.

6.15 (3m ch) 1, **Ballyallia Castle** (Mr Simon Andrews, 8-1); 2, Commuter Country (evens fav); 3, Zam Bee (7-1). 6 ran. NR: Buonarroti. 3½l, 9l. Mrs Julie Read. Tote: £9.50; £2.30, £1.50. DF: £13.70. CSF: £14.96.

CHELTENHAM

ROB WRIGHT
5.25 Moving Earth — 7.10 Gunner Welburn
6.00 Mely Moss — 7.45 Rusty Fellow
6.35 Rusty Bridge — 8.15 King Of The Dawn
Carl Evans: 5.25 Moving Earth. 6.00 Knight Of Passion. 6.35 The Malakarma. 7.10 Gunner Welburn. 7.45 Rusty Fellow. 8.15 King Of The Dawn.

GOING: SOFT (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) — SIS

5.25 HORACE BARTON & SON MAIDEN HUNTERS CHASE (£2,078: 2m 5f) (16 runners)

1 -142 BROWN ROBBER 32P (G) Mrs S Batchelor 11-12-0 ... Mr T Dennis (7)
2 00/P CASTLE WARRIOR 11P J Danahar 12-12-0 ... Mr N H Oliver (7)
3 F-12 FELLOO 25P (S) J Taylor 10-12-0 ... Mr R Burton (5)
4 P515 GAYSUN 18 (F,S) M Buddick 7-12-0 ... Mr J Young (7)
5 UC44 GUNNER JOHN 32P B Llewellyn 8-12-0 ... Mr J L Llewellyn
6 P34P ICECAPADE 8 (F,S) Miss P Williams 11-12-0 ... Miss R Williams (7)
7 PP53 IRISH LUCK 23P Mrs F Goldsworthy 9-12-0 ... Mr J D Moore (5)
8 5P-3 JOHNNY COOL 10P R E Gray 9-12-0 ... Mr B R Foster (7)
9 111P KERRY SOLDIER BLUE 8 (G,S) R Price 10-12-0 ... Miss P Jones
10 -U45 LIVE WIRE 21 (S) C Trietline 8-12-0 ... Mr G Hanmer (5)
11 F111 MOVING EARTH 17P (F,G,S) R Barber 6-12-0 ... Miss P Gundry (5)
12 PPPP SEA SEARCH 5 (F) C Johnson 12-12-0 ... Mr A Charles-Jones (3)
13 P-16 SHUIL'S STAR 32P (B,G,S) E Williams 8-12-0 ... Mr E Williams (3)
14 -PPP WOTANITE 7 (F) Ms Lucy King 9-12-0 ... Mr E Walker (7)
15 3223 BEL LANE 23 (F,G) Mrs C Hardinge 10-11-9 ... Mr D S Jones (3)
16 1111 MISS O'GRADY 8P (F,S) Miss L Alner 7-11-9 ... Mr M G Miller (5)

9-4 Moving Earth, 11-4 Miss O'Grady, 5-1 Kerry Soldier Blue, 10-1 Brown Robber, Felloo, Shuil's Star, Bel Lane, 14-1 others.



6.00 FAUCETS PERRIN AND ROWE CHAMPION HUNTERS CHASE (£4,143: 3m 2f 110yd) (5)

1 1151 KNIGHT OF PASSION 7 (G,S) Mrs P Tizzard 7-12-6 ... Mr J D Moore (5)
2 1111 SKIP'N'TIME 21 (F,G,S) R N Miller 9-12-6 ... Mr M G Miller (5)
3 32/2 MELY MOSS 20 (G,S) C Egerton 8-12-0 ... Mr A Dempsey
4 PFFP ROSKEEN BRIDGE 22 (B,S) P Swift 8-12-0 ... Mr N Kent (7)
5 4/36 VERY VERY ORDINARY 17P (G,S) Mrs R Matheson 13-12-0 ... Mr A Charles-Jones (3)

4-5 Mely Moss, 5-2 Knight Of Passion, 4-1 Skip'N'Time, 16-1 others.

6.35 WINNING POST AT CHELTENHAM HUNTERS CHASE (£4,436: 4m 1f) (16)

1 1PUP APPLE JOHN 11 (G,S) A Whoring 10-12-4 ... Miss P Gundry (5)
2 -P61 OVERFLOWING RIVER 17P (G) J Wade 10-12-4 ... Mr T Glass (7)
3 5P23 SAFFRON MOSS 8 (F,S) Mrs S Farr 9-12-4 ... Miss F Wilson (7)
4 -15U APATURA KING 39P (F,G,S) Miss L Alner 9-12-0 ... Mr T Mitchell
5 R221 ARCTIC GREY 23P (S) Miss A Nolan 3-12-0 ... Mr J M Pritchard (3)
6 305P HIGHWAY FIVE 13 (T,G,S) Lady S Brooke 11-12-0 ... Mr P Costello (7)
7 P405 KEANO 23P (S) J R Suthern 10-12-0 ... Mr M Harris (5)
8 F121 MILLYHENRY 17P (G,S) Mrs P Tizzard 8-12-0 ... Mr M G Miller (5)
9 /614 MURTON HEIGHTS 11P (G,S) Mrs K Tutty 9-12-0 ... Mr N Tutty
10 -233 RUSTY BRIDGE 13 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs S Johnson 12-12-0 ... Mr R Burton (5)
11 142P SIP OF BRANDY 8 (B,G,S) Mrs L Goldsworthy 6-12-0 ... Mr D O'Meara (7)
12 1462 SOME TOURIST 8P (S) N Benstead 11-12-0 ... Miss C Benstead (7)
13 -FU4 SPRINGFARM RATH 44 (S) G Brown 8-12-0 ... Mr T Gibney (3)
14 3-U2 THE MALAKARMA 15P (B,T,CD,G,S) Mrs C Bailey 13-12-0 ... Mr R Cope (7)
15 3241 YOUNG BRAVE 25P (C,F,G,S) Miss L Alner 13-12-0 ... Mr J D Moore (5)
16 362P POSY HILL 11P (G) M Lloyd 9-11-9 ... Mr G Hanmer (5)

3-1 The Malakarma, 5-1 Overflowing River, 6-1 Apatura King, 7-1 Arctic Grey, 8-1 Millyhenry, Young Brave, 10-1 Rusty Bridge, 12-1 others.

7.10 BOWRING COUNTRYSIDE INSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP HUNTERS CHASE (£2,775: 3m 1f 110yd) (9)

1 3211 KEEPER'S CALL 23 (G,S) R G Makin 7-12-7 ... Mr C Mulhall (5)
2 1214 DETROIT DAVY 22P (G,S) D W Oakes 8-12-0 ... Mr P Williams (7)
3 2124 DRY HILL LAD 18 (G) D Ibbotson 8-12-0 ... Mr N Kent (7)
4 5P24 EMERALD KNIGHT 10P (G) R Hankey 9-12-0 ... Mr R Hankey (7)
5 2111 GUNNER WELBURN 22P (S) Mrs C Bailey 7-12-0 ... Mr R Cope (7)
6 1213 MICKTHECUTAWAY 11P (G,S) Heather Dalton 7-12-0 ... Mr R Burton (5)
7 5131 MISTER ONE 17P (F,G) C Tizzard 8-12-0 ... Miss S Vickery (3)
8 4451 SOUTHERN FLIGHT 25P (S) K Cumings 10-12-0 ... Miss J Cumings (7)
9 1316 SPRINGHILL QUAY 17P (D,G,S) S Clark 10-12-0 ... Mr R Clark (7)

2-1 Gunner Welburn, 7-2 Keeper's Call, 9-2 Mickthecutaway, 6-1 Dry Hill Lad, 10-1 Mister One, 12-1 Springhill Quay, 16-1 others.

7.45 COLIN NASH MEMORIAL UNITED HUNTS CUP HUNTERS CHASE (£2,232: 3m 1f 110yd) (7)

1 4442 ARCHIES OATS 15P (V,G,S) J Trice-Rolph 10-12-3 ... Mr J Trice-Rolph (3)
2 -211 CREAM SUPREME 25P (B,F,G,S) E Williams 9-12-3 ... Mr E Williams (3)
3 S33P HIGH GUARDIAN 8 (F,G,S) T L Jones 10-12-3 ... Miss P Jones
4 -211 HILL ISLAND 38P (F,G,S) Miss L Sweeting 12-12-3 ... Miss L Sweeting (7)
5 1PP1 MUNTAFI 4P (S) S Lewis 8-12-3 ... Mr A Wintle (3)
6 3216 RUSTY FELLOW 13 (F,G) R Shail 9-12-3 ... Mr D Mansell (7)
7 223F STRETCHIT 23P (BF,G,S) Miss T McCurrich 9-12-3 ... Miss T McCurrich (7)

9-4 Cream Supreme, 5-2 Hill Island, 5-1 Stretchit, 13-2 Archies Oats, 8-1 Muntafi, 10-1 High Guardian, 16-1 Rusty Fellow.

8.15 FRIENDS OF HUNT SERVANTS BENEFIT SOCIETY HUNTERS CHASE (£2,400: 2m 110yd) (21)

1 -315 PRO BONO 40 (CD,F,G,S) W Caudwell 9-12-7 ... Mr A Sansome
2 3132 CHISM 11 (B,F,G,S) Miss L Alner 8-12-4 ... Mr J D Moore (5)
3 PPP3 DALAMETRE 18 (D,G,S) M Evans 12-12-4 ... Mr S Stronge (3)
4 /3-1 TOMMYS WEBB 40 (S) C Nimmo 11-12-4 ... Mr S Morris (7)
5 1P2P WARREN BOY 8 (CD,F,G,S) T L Jones 9-12-4 ... Mr G Lewis (7)
6 2236 DELIGHT 28 (S) Countess Goess-Saurau 8-12-0 ... Miss P Gundry (5)
7 -F36 DINO MALTA 11P (D,S) H Wheeler 8-12-0 ... Mr M Harris (5)
8 /PP0 EAU SO SLOE 18 F Matthews 8-12-0 ... Mr A Bateman (7)
9 -PP6 FATHER JACK 18 T Ide 8-12-0 ... Mr G Barfoot-Saunt (5)
10 UU33 FOREST FEATHER 17P (G,S) Miss J E Mathias 11-12-0 ... Mr E Williams (3)
11 60-3 FRENCH BUCK 39P (D,G) M G Rimell 9-12-0 ... Mr J M Pritchard (3)
12 /F-P GORDON 11 (D,S) Nigel Tabor 8-12-0 ... Mr E Walker (7)
13 P22U HALHAM TARN 28 (T,D,S) G Brown 9-12-0 ... Mr T Gibney (3)
14 P-PP HIGHLAND SPIN 32P Mrs F Goldsworthy 8-12-0 ... Mr D O'Meara (7)
15 8U4U KING OF THE DAWN 23P (D,G) Nicky Mitchell 8-12-0 ... Mr M G Miller (5)
16 3P32 MOSTYN 17P (F) J Tuck 8-12-0 ... Dr P Pritchard (3)
17 P241 NORTHERN BLUFF 15P (F,G,S) J Deutsch 9-12-0 ... Mr J Jukes
18 1434 PREMIER FIRST 7 (G) N Pewter 10-12-0 ... Mr G Pewter (7)
19 -PPP SIR-EILE 73P (F) D Ibbotson 11-12-0 ... Mr N Kent (7)
20 5-4P SMART TEACHER 38P Ms Kim Matthews 9-12-0 ... Mr H Hankey (7)
21 P444 WHISTLING BUCK 18P (V,T,D,S) P Morgan 11-12-0 ... Mr J L Llewellyn

9-4 Chism, 9-2 Tommys Webb, 6-1 Northern Bluff, 8-1 Halham Tarn, 10-1 Pro Bono, 12-1 Delight, 14-1 French Buck, King Of The Dawn, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Barber, 3 winners from 12 runners, 25.0%; C Egerton, 4 from 25, 16.0%. Only qualifiers.

JOCKEYS: No qualifiers.

Scotland manager retains respect for Germany's fading powers

Brown seeks reversal of roles

FROM KEVIN McCARRA IN BREMEN

THIS evening in Bremen, the most pious member of the congregation is obliged to turn iconoclast. In a friendly match, Craig Brown must try to damage opponents that he reveres. The Scotland manager has regarded Germany as his model ever since, as a young coach, he studied the slick discipline of a Bayern Munich squad training for the 1976 European Cup final, in which they defeated Saint-Etienne at Hampden Park.

When he took control of Scotland in 1993, his first step was to pay homage to the German model by adopting the three-man defence as a customary tactic. Much as he hopes for fallibility, Brown defends his adversaries tonight against all the charges of decline that have ensued since Croatia beat them 3-0 at the World Cup finals last summer.

"Apart from that one result, they have been the greatest force in Europe," Brown said, "and I feel they will prove to be more consistent than France." The manager marshalls his evidence, noting that Borussia Dortmund won the European Cup only two years ago, a feat that Bayern Munich can emulate by overcoming Manchester United in the final next month. Recent victories, including a 3-0 win over Northern Ireland, also suggest that Germany will qualify for the European championship.

Like a fortress in a stage set, however, the apparently impregnable walls may turn out to be made only of papier-mâché. There are still blows to punch a hole in German self-esteem. At the beginning of this year, Germany were beaten 3-0 by the United States in Florida. Erich Ribbeck, the coach, explained that the hard conditioning work being undertaken then had deprived the side of sharpness.

Mitigating factors were no salve for national pride left raw by that rout. "For six days," Ribbeck said, "the weather was beautiful, everyone worked hard and there were no drunken players. Then, in 25 minutes, we were 3-0 down to the United States."

He recounts the episode in the phlegmatic, implicitly humorous manner of a veteran manager.

Nonetheless, he and the squad are on probation and note will be taken of the way in which they conduct themselves against Scotland. Ribbeck sees little place for youngsters, but, in restructuring Germany, he has called upon some established Bundesliga players who had little or no previous experience of international football, with Oliver Neuville, the Hansa Rostock forward, making a pleasing impression.

At 29, Horst Heldt will make his debut if Marco Bode fails to recover from injury. With 134 caps, Lothar Matthäus has a reserve of expertise out of which to compensate for callowness elsewhere. Although lacking a few players, Ribbeck is content with the available resources.

Brown cannot be at ease. Instead, he takes pride in a tight-knit party whose camaraderie finds an expression in philanthropy. While complimenting England's action in donating their fees for the match with Hungary tonight to aid Kosova refugees, he let it be known that the £90,000 proceeds of the World Cup song recorded by his squad had been given to the Dunblane Appeal.

Mean-spiritedness is confined to the pitch. Recognising that Germany attack with a forward on each wing, Brown has elected to employ the width of a back four in a game that will test Scotland's defence. Efforts will still be made to explore the true depth of Germany's confidence. "I'm not going to sit back and let them make passes," Paul Lambert, the former Borussia Dortmund midfield player, said. "It's important that we go at them." Admiration for Germany will have to be confined to narrow limits.

TEAMS

GERMANY (possible: 3-4-3): **J Lehmann** (Borussia Dortmund) — **J Nowotny** (Bayer Leverkusen), **L Matthäus** (Bayern Munich), **C Wörns** (Paris Saint-Germain) — **T Strunz** (Bayern Munich), **J Jeremies** (Bayern Munich), **D Hamann** (Newcastle United), **J Heinrich** (Fiorentina) — **O Neuville** (Hansa Rostock), **O Bierhoff** (AC Milan), **H Heldt** (TSV Munich 1860).
SCOTLAND (possible: 4-4-2): **N Sullivan** (Wimbledon) — **D Weir** (Everton), **C Hendry** (Rangers), **T Boyd** (Celtic), **C Davidson** (Blackburn Rovers) — **I Durrant** (Kilmarnock), **P Lambert** (Celtic), **S Gemmill** (Everton), **A Johnston** (Sunderland) — **W Dodds** (Aberdeen), **D Hutchison** (Everton)
Referee: U Meier (Switzerland) •
TELEVISION: Sky Sports 1: Live coverage, *from 7pm.*



Neil Sullivan, left, and Alan Main, the goalkeepers, in discussion after Scotland's training session in the Weser Stadium. Photograph: Christof Stache

Ireland offer chance to club misfits

FROM RUSSELL KEMPSON IN DUBLIN

MICK McCARTHY, the Ireland manager, and his international counterparts — Kevin Keegan, of England, Craig Brown, of Scotland, and Lawrie McMenemy, of Northern Ireland — share a common bond this week. They are in the wrong places at the wrong time, according to the clubs, and consequently their requests for players, at a vital stage of the domestic season, have been treated less than sympathetically.

Shadow squads, ravaged by unavailability and "injuries", have been selected and skeleton sides announced. When Ireland play a similarly weakened Sweden team at Lansdowne Road tonight, it could be construed as the friendliest of friendlies. Most of the central characters will be at home, safely tucked up in bed with a hot cup of cocoa.

Still, there are Brownie points to be earned and reputations to be resurrected before the European championship qualifying series resumes in June, when Ireland are due to play Yugoslavia in Dublin — if the group eight confusion, exacerbated by the Balkans conflict, has been resolved — and England entertain Sweden, the group five leaders. For David Connolly and Mark Kennedy, the absenteeism this evening may prove beneficial.

Connolly's extended loan period with Wolverhampton Wanderers from Feyenoord, the Dutch champions, has taken a turn for the worse, with neither club now appearing to want him, while Kennedy can hardly get a game for Wimbledon, either. A return to the international stage could breathe fresh life into flagging careers.

"David has looked as sharp as a tack in training," McCarthy said yesterday. "He needs to get a move, get a club and I guarantee he'll score goals. It's a difficult position for him."

Connolly's record for Ireland — seven goals in 15 appearances — bears close comparison to some of the best, but he is growing frustrated by the lack of matches in the Nationwide League first division. "I'm still contracted to Feyenoord and will probably have to go back," he said. "I don't really know what my future is there, but it doesn't look very good."

Kennedy's predicament has been complicated by the absence of Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, who suffered a heart attack last month. Ray Harford has taken over in a caretaker capacity but does not appear to favour Kennedy's elegant if unpredictable skills wide in midfield.

"The manager bought me for a reason and I've got another three years on my contract, but I'm not sure what's happening at the moment," Kennedy said."

Tommy Soderberg, the Sweden coach, empathises with McCarthy *et al.* Important matters elsewhere have denied him the services of Magnus Hedman, of Coventry City, Fredrik Ljungberg, of Arsenal, and Johan Mjallby, of Celtic.

Henrik Larsson, Mjallby's free-scoring club colleague, has been allowed leave and is relishing the break. "It's good for us to play in Dublin," he said. "It will be very useful for our preparations for the big game against England." Not everyone dislikes international football.

Andrew Griffin, the Newcastle United defender, gave the FA Cup finalists a scare when he was taken off on a stretcher with an ankle injury in England Under-21's 2-2 draw with Hungary in Budapest last night. In a game delayed by a thunderstorm, England went two down before levelling through Danny Mills and a penalty by James Beattie.

IRELAND (4-4-2): **S Given** (Newcastle United) — **S Carr** (Tottenham Hotspur), **S Staunton** (Liverpool), **G Breen** (Coventry City), **K Cunningham** (Wimbledon) — **J McAteer** (Blackburn Rovers), **A McLoughlin** (Portsmouth), **M Kinsella** (Charlton Athletic), **M Kennedy** (Wimbledon) — **N Quinn** (Sunderland), **D Connolly** (Wolverhampton Wanderers)
SWEDEN (4-4-2): **M Kihlstedt** (SK Brann) — **P Kaamark** (Leicester City), **P Andersson** (Borussia Mönchengladbach), **J Bjorklund** (Valencia), **T Lucic** (Bologna) — **H Mild** (IFK Gothenburg), **S Schwarz** (Valencia), **D Andersson** (Bari), **J Blomqvist** (Manchester United) — **H Larsson** (Celtic), **J Pettersson** (Borussia Mönchengladbach).
Referee: P Garibian (France).



BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This board from the Malta Bridge Festival Pairs was against the pair who were to be our team-mates later in the week, so crowing rights as well as matchpoints were at stake.

Dealer South East-West game Pairs

West	North	East
	♠ Q J 7 4 ♡ 6 4 2 ◇ 10 5 2 ♣ J 10 6	
♠ 10 8 2 ♡ Q J 7 3 ◇ J 9 7 ♣ 9 8 4	N / W E / S	♠ K 6 5 ♡ A 10 ◇ K Q 8 6 3 ♣ 5 3 2
	♠ A 9 3 ♡ K 9 8 5 ◇ A 4 ♣ A K Q 7	

S	W	N	E
Townsend	*Dix*	*Sheehan*	*Tacchi*
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

Contract: Three No-Trumps by South. Lead: eight of spades.

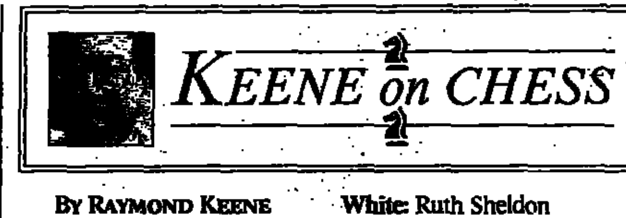
My raise to Three No-Trumps was quite aggressive, but using Stayman to look for a 4-4 spade fit would be a definite error. Making any game should be a good result, and *420 against 400 is unlikely to* make much difference. On the other hand, spades will often produce no more tricks than no-trumps, especially if opener is also 4-3-3-3. And a Stayman sequence can give away useful information to the defenders.

Tom Townsend did well to *play low from dummy* at trick one, winning with the nine. Then he went astray, continuing with ace and another spade. East won and switched to diamonds. Now the best declarer could do was cash out for one off.

The winning line is to cross to dummy in clubs and lead the queen of spades. If East covers declarer has four spade tricks to go with four clubs and the ace of diamonds. Declarer is also all right if East started with king-doubleton: he can finesse the seven on the way back, assuming that West would have led *middle (MUD) from three* small. If East holds off, declarer is still in dummy to lead towards the king of hearts for his ninth trick.

A similar situation is A-x-x in hand facing Q-J-9-x in dummy, needing three tricks and having no outside entry to dummy. You start by *finessing the nine.* If the ten is outside the defenders must let this hold. Then you run the queen, hoping the king is onside. If this loses to the bare king, congratulate your right-hand opponent: ducking the ten from 10-x-x-x is world class.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.



BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Hampstead masters

Of the four events contested at Hampstead in mid-April, the masters section was won jointly by Lawrence Cooper and Angus Dunnington both of whom scored 6½/9. Today's games are both from this *event. Final scores: Cooper* and Dunnington 6½; Krutti and Pribyl 5½; Norris 5; Sheldon 4½; David Anderton, Bekker-Jensen and Naylor 3; Matthew Anderton 2½.

White: Angus Dunnington
Black: Ruth Sheldon
Hampstead 1999
Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	g6
4	0-0	Bg7
5	Re1	Nf6
6	e5	Nd5
7	Nc3	Nxc3
8	dxc3	0-0
9	Bg5	h6
10	Bf4	Qb6
11	a4	a6
12	Bc4	Na5
13	Ba2	g5
14	Be3	Qc7
15	Bxg5	hxg5
16	Nxg5	d5
17	Qd3	Rd8
18	e6	Bxe6
19	Rxe6	Qf4
20	Qh7+	Kf8
21	Rg6	Qe5
22	Nf3	Black resigns

Diagram of final position

White: Ruth Sheldon
Black: David Anderton
Hampstead 1999
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1	d4	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nc3	Bb4
4	Qc2	0-0
5	a3	Bxc3+
6	Qxc3	Ne4
7	Qc2	f5
8	g3	b6
9	Bg2	Bb7
10	Nf3	Nf6
11	b4	Be4
12	Qb3	d6
13	0-0	Qe8
14	Rd1	Nbd7
15	d5	e5
16	Bb2	Qh5
17	Rac1	Rab8
18	Qa4	a5
19	Qc6	Rfc8
20	Bc3	axb4
21	axb4	Nf8
22	Ra1	Ng6
23	Ra7	Ne7
24	Qb5	h6
25	Rda1	Qe8
26	Qxe8+	Nxe8
27	Nd2	Bxg2
28	Kxg2	b5
29	R7a5	bxc4
30	f4	Nf6
31	fxe5	Nfxd5
32	Rc1	Nxc3
33	Rxc3	Nc6
34	Ra4	d5
35	Nf3	Re8
36	Kf2	Rxb4
37	Rxb4	Nxb4
38	Ke3	c5
39	Kf4	g6
40	h4	d4

White resigns

Keene online

You can send me your queries, puzzles, problems and games *direct by e-mail. The address* is keenechess@aol.com. The best contributions from *Times readers will be published* either here or in the Saturday *Times* Weekend column.

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

MOROLOGY
a. The study of toadstools
b. Greed
c. Foolish chit-chat

LISKIN
a. A maid
b. A regional accent
c. Malt vinegar dregs

MUNG
a. Fibre
b. A ghost
c. An obsolete Chinese coin

LAXIST
a. A slacker
b. A laxative
c. A Monophysite heretic

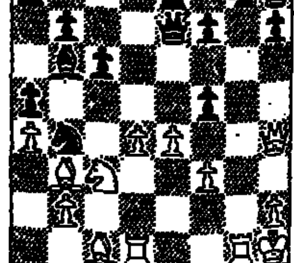
Answers on page 46

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

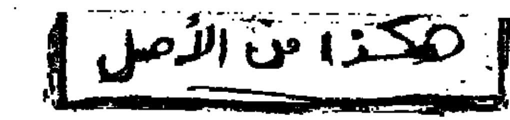
White to play. This position is from the game Matveeva — Lundin, Moscow 1999.

How does White exploit the broken up Black kingside?



Solution on page 46





هكذا من الأصل

Inter hand caretaker duties to Hodgson

By Stephen Wood and George Caulkin

ROY HODGSON, who was dismissed as manager of Blackburn Rovers five months ago, was asked yesterday to take charge of Internazionale until the end of the season. Hodgson managed Inter for two seasons before swapping the San Siro for Ewood Park in the summer of 1997. His fortunes have come full circle, however, and Inter have confirmed that they wanted Hodgson to return as "technical director of the first team squad".

Inter are ninth in Serie A and Hodgson has four matches in which to bring a little cheer to the club, while also healing the wounds left by the previous regime. Prime among Inter's concerns is the situation surrounding Ronaldo, the Brazil striker. Some reports suggest that Ronaldo is unhappy with life in Milan, particularly after receiving abuse from supporters after the 3-1 defeat by Udinese last Sunday.

Ronaldo's car was pelted with stones as he left the ground and he said afterwards: "I don't expect eternal gratitude, but I think I've a right to a certain amount of understanding over the physical problems that have affected my form over the last nine months."

Hodgson was a success during his first spell in charge at Inter, but, whatever his record in the next month, he will not be in charge next season. Marcello Lippi, the former Juventus coach, has been confirmed already as the club's coach. However, it does give Hodgson another platform from which to advertise his talents. He guided Inter to the Uefa Cup final of 1997 and Blackburn into the Uefa Cup in his first season in charge of the Lancashire club.

Newcastle United appear to have come up on the rails to pip Sheffield Wednesday, West Ham United and Middlesbrough in the race to sign Oleg Luzhny, the Dynamo Kiev left back.

Although there will be no formal announcement until after the FA Cup Final next month, the Ukraine captain has agreed a four-year contract with Newcastle, worth £1 million per season. Luzhny, 30, whose speed has earned him the nickname Horse, will cost £2 million. Newcastle are also well advanced in a £3.5 million deal to sign Alain Goma, the Paris Saint-Germain central defender.

Luzhny's move to Tyneside represents a considerable blow to Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, who travelled to Germany last week for talks with Kiev officials before their European Cup semi-final against Bayern Munich. Robson was under the impression that the transfer was all but completed.

There was further tension on Teesside yesterday when Robson reacted spikily to suggestions that Paul Gascoigne — who was treated in a London clinic for alcohol-related problems last October — has suffered a relapse. Gascoigne, 31, has missed his side's past three matches.

"Everything is blown out of proportion," Robson said. "I spoke to Gazza yesterday and he has not been drunk."



Hodgson is returning to Internazionale until the end of the season, but will not be appointed on a full-time basis



Van der Sar, a shouter and organiser in the Schmeichel mould, claims that he could be leaving Ajax to become first-choice goalkeeper at Old Trafford

Ferguson pours scorn on goalkeeper's claim

By Stephen Wood

MANCHESTER United denied yesterday that they had made an approach to Edwin van der Sar, the Ajax and Holland goalkeeper, who has put himself forward as the successor to Peter Schmeichel. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, described Van der Sar's claims that United had been in touch with him as "absolute nonsense".

Ferguson said that he had drawn up a shortlist of two goalkeepers and that Van der Sar was not on it. Schmeichel, the Denmark goalkeeper, remains adamant that he will leave Old Trafford at the end of the season, ending an eight-year association with the club.

Ferguson has received reports on several goalkeepers playing for Continental clubs since Schmeichel confirmed his decision to retire from English football last November. Undoubtedly, Van der Sar has been one, along with Gianluigi Buffon, of Parma, Carlos Roa, of Real Mallorca, and Oscar Moens, of AZ Alkmaar.

Players with English clubs under review are Mark Bosnich, of Aston Villa, who is available without a fee, Richard Wright, of Ipswich Town and Mark Schwarzer, of Middlesbrough.

Van der Sar has claimed that he has become the chosen one and has gone on record as saying: "United have been in contact with me to ask about my feelings and availability about joining them if a transfer could be agreed between the clubs. Obviously, I would be interested."

It is not surprising that Van der Sar, 28, has made his feelins known, for a move to United would reunite him with Jaap Stam, a friend and colleague at international level. Moreover, United would be able to provide Van der Sar with European football next season — something that Ajax are unlikely to be able to do — while also meeting his financial demands.

However, Ajax will also be very interested to hear that United have allegedly approached the player before contacting them.

Maurice Watkins, a United director who is also the club's solicitor, said yesterday: "I am not aware of anything of that nature having taken place." Van der Sar has hardly got any potential relationship with Ferguson off to a good start. A player declaring the club's interest in public, before the United manager has acted, is not Ferguson's preferred way of doing business.

"It is absolute nonsense to say we have approached this player," Ferguson said, "and we have never been in touch with Ajax, either. There are many people going about claiming that they are representing United. It is an old game and it just helps create speculation. People say there is no smoke without fire, but there is nothing I can do until I am able to officially announce who the new United goalkeeper is.

"I am not close to signing anyone at the moment. I need to find out how much money I will have to spend and I expect that news to come soon. At the moment, I have a couple of goalkeepers in my thoughts, although nothing has been agreed yet."

Ferguson would not reveal their identities, but the likelihood is that Bosnich and Schwarzer are uppermost in his mind. Bosnich's financial demands are said to be extortionate, but if the call came to return to Old Trafford, there would be no surprise if he suddenly felt able to conform with United's pay ceiling for players, which stands at around £25,000 a week.

Alternatively, Ferguson could unveil an unknown. He surprised many with the appointment earlier this season of Steve McClaren, formerly of Derby County, as his assistant manager and he would enjoy fooling everybody once again.

Bosnich, left, a Manchester United old boy, and Roa are believed to be under review

FOOTBALL IN BRIEF

Jansen's recovery ahead of schedule

■ BLACKBURN Rovers are hopeful that Matt Jansen, their England Under-21 striker, could rejoin the fight against relegation. His recovery from knee surgery has been smoother than expected and although he will not be available for the trip to Charlton Athletic on Saturday, he could return for the home game against Nottingham Forest on the following weekend.

■ Sheffield Wednesday have not given up hope of signing Dani, the Real Mallorca striker. The Hillsborough club had a £5 million bid for the Spain international accepted a month ago, but there have been reports that Dani has stalled on the transfer in the hope of receiving an offer from Arsenal.

■ Australia players based overseas have agreed to return home to play against a Fifa World XI at the official opening of Stadium Australia, Sydney, on June 12. Harry Kewell, of Leeds United, Mark Bosnich, of Aston Villa, and Mark Viduka, of Celtic, will be included in the squad.

■ Crystal Palace's miserable season took another turn for the worse yesterday when thieves raided the club offices and stole video equipment, computers and cameras worth around £20,000.

■ Aberdeen, the Bank of Scotland Scottish Premier League club, have offered Bournemouth £500,000 for Ian Cox, their captain and central defender.

■ Henrik Larsson, of Celtic, Scotland's player of the year, has escaped with a belated booking for the gesture he made to the crowd at McDiarmid Park on Saturday, when Celtic were beaten 1-0 by St Johnstone.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Pakistan call on Pybus

■ **CRICKET:** Richard Pybus will be unveiled as Pakistan's new coach today ahead of the World Cup. He was recommended by Raja Khan, the Pakistan assistant tour manager, who is based in England. Javed Miandad, Pybus's predecessor, resigned last week for family reasons. Wasim Akram, the Pakistan captain, said: "It will be very good to have Richard with our side."

☐ Owen Arthur, the Prime Minister of Barbados, apologised yesterday for the crowd disturbance that saw bottles thrown on to the pitch in the final one-day international between Australia and West Indies.

■ **ATHLETICS:** The three leading British meetings this summer will command record prize-money for such events in Great Britain. The British Grand Prix, which is scheduled for August 7 at either Crystal Palace or Sheffield, will have around £450,000 available — more than the seven meetings that comprise the Gold League series.

■ **TENNIS:** Boris Becker, of Germany, lost to Wayne Ferreira, of South Africa, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, in the opening round of the BMW Open in Munich yesterday. Becker is playing his first tournament since the death of his father last week.

■ **SQUASH:** England have made changes ahead of the European team championships that begin in Linz, Austria, today. England will defend the men's title from pool B. Lee Beachill and Marcus Berrett fill the bottom order behind Paul Johnson, the British champion, and Simon Parke, the England No 2.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

NATIONWIDE CONFERENCE: Rushden and Diamonds 4 Forest Green Rovers 0; Leek Town 2 Welling Utd 4
POSTPONED: Hednesford Town v Kingstonian
UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Radcliffe 3 Droylsden 2.
DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone 0 Boston 0.
RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Carshalton 1 St Albans 1; Dagenham and Red 0 Chesham 0. **First division:** Croydon 0 Whyteleafe 2; Romford 0 Hitchin 3. **Second division:** Banstead 1 Barking 0.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLIANCE: Second division: York 1 Lincoln City 1.
HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Fort William 2 Clachnacuddin 4
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea 2 Peterborough 0; Ipswich 5 Gillingham 0; Northampton 1 Southampton 0; Wycombe 2 Arsenal 0.
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Aston Villa 0 Liverpool 1; Blackburn 0 Stoke 0; Everton 3 Birmingham 0; Leicester 2 Nottm Forest 1; Sunderland 2 Preston 1. **First division:** Wolverhampton 3 Barnsley 3. **Second division:** Newcastle 2 Shrewsbury 0; Sheffield United 0 York 0; Stockport 6 Blackpool 1. **Third division:** Carlisle 0 Rochdale 1.
ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Newcastle Blue Star 3 Stockton 0
COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Abingdon 0 Cirencester 2; Highworth 8 Wantage 2

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Minnesota 6 Boston 2; Anaheim 4 Toronto 3 (11 inns), Oakland 4 Cleveland 5 (10 inns); Seattle 0 Detroit 7.
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Florida 3 Atlanta 5; Houston 5 Arizona 2.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Charlotte 84 New York 91, Cleveland 65 Miami 90, Houston 102 Los Angeles Lakers 80, Dallas 101 Chicago 83; Milwaukee 98 Washington 91, Utah 85 Phoenix 99; Portland 93 Denver 77, Golden State 114 Sacramento 89, Los Angeles Clippers 88 San Antonio 94.

BOWLS

BLACKPOOL: Waterloo women's pairs: Third round: V Lyon and M Lyons (Whiston) bt J Lynham and F Wagstaffe (Whitefield) 21-7, P Holt and E Ainsworth (Great Harwood) bt C Ramsey and B Burke (Warrington) 21-11; G Carroll and I Reardon (Warrington) bt J Palmore and N Bailey (Rossall) 21-19; E Lester and P Baxendale (Chorley) bt W Hope and S Bradbury (Timperley) 21-18

ETON FIVES

LUDGROVE: Kinnaird Cup (All England Championship): Semi-finals: R A Mason and J R Mole bt E Wass and J C Halstead 12-6, 15-10, 15-14; J P Toop and M C T Wiseman bt H M E Wiseman and P N Markkanen 12-6, 15-12, 12-5. **Final:** Mason and Mole wo.

GOLF

RYDER CUP POINTS TABLE: 1 C Montgomerie (Scot) 6,490pts; 2, J M Olazábal (Sp) 6,173; 3, M A Jiménez (Sp) 4,446; 4, L Westwood (Eng) 4,216; 5, J Sandelin (Swe) 3,490; 6, D Clarke (N Ire) 3,485; 7, A Cejka (Ger) 2,813; 8, A Coltart (Scot) 2,746; 9, D Howell (Eng) 2,679; 10, S Struver (Ger) 2,660; 11, P McGinley (Ire) 2,381; 12, R Karlsson (Swe) 2,375; 13, B Langer (Ger) 2,347; 14, P Sjoland (Swe) 2,154; 15, J Bickerton (Eng) 2,012; 16, S Webster (Eng) 1,991; 17, P Lawrie (Scot) 1,895; 18, V Phillips (Eng) 1,795; 19, P Fulke (Swe) 1,670; 20, M James (Eng) 1,623.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Stanley Cup play-offs: Eastern Conference: Boston 2 Carolina 3 (Carolina lead best-of-seven series 2-1), Philadelphia 1 Toronto 2 (Toronto lead series 2-1). **Western Conference:** San Jose 1 Colorado 2 (Colorado lead series 2-0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

NORTHERN FORD PREMIERSHIP: Bramley 16 Dewsbury 17.

SAILING

CLIPPER ROUND-THE-WORLD RACE: Leg 4b (Singapore to Seychelles with nautical miles to finish): 1, Mermerus (B Sollars) 2,282; 2 Senca (R Dean) 2,284; 3, Ariel (A Thomson) 2,286; 4, Antiope (K Harris) 2,297; 5, Thermopylae (M Tod) 2,304; 6, Chrysolite (T Hedges) 2,308; 7, Taeping (N Fleming) 2326.

SCHOOLS SPORT

CRICKET: Staffordshire Gents 156 *Wrekin College 158-4; *RGS Worcester 105 Shrewsbury 106-5; XL Club 145-7 dec *St Edmund's Ware 146-5; Cranleigh 216-4 dec *King's Canterbury 99-8. The Cryptics 204-2 *Cranleigh 204-2

*denotes home team

SNOOKER

THE CRUCIBLE, Sheffield: Embassy world championship: Second round: R O'Sullivan (Eng) bt J Parry (Eng) 13-8; M Williams (Wales) bt N Walker (Eng) 13-7, S Hendry (Scot) bt J Wattana (Thai) 13-7, S Lee (Eng) bt A McManus (Scot) 13-7. **Quarter-finals:** Williams leads K Doherty (Ire) 7-1, O'Sullivan leads J Parrott (Eng) 6-2; J Higgins (Scot) leads Lee 8-0; Hendry leads M Stevens (Wales) 6-2.

TENNIS

ATLANTA: AT&T Challenge: First round: J Stoltenberg (Aus) bt P Goldstein (US) 6-4, 6-1; M Chang (US) bt G Pozzi (It) 6-4, 6-2; M Larsson (Swe) bt J van Herck (Bel) 6-3, 6-2; S Sargsian (Arm) bt C Woodruff (US) 6-4, 6-4; M Filippini (Uru) bt P Korda (Cz) 7-5, 6-1; M Woodforde (Aus) bt L Hewitt (Aus) 3-6, 6-3, 6-4; J A Marin (C Rica) bt L Horna (Peru) 6-4, 6-3.
MUNICH: Munich Open: First round: C Vinck (Ger) bt R Delgado (Par) 6-4, 3-6, 7-5; L Burgsmueller (Ger) bt G Solves (Fr) 3-6, 6-3, 6-2; A Pavel (Rom) bt I Kornienko (Russ) 6-4, 6-0; T Haas (Ger) bt A Calatrava (Sp) 4-6, 7-6, 6-4; F Squillari (Arg) bt D Scala (It) 6-2, 6-2; H Dreekmann (Ger) bt I Ljubicic (Cro) 4-6, 6-4, 6-4; M Zabaleta (Arg) bt A Portas (Sp) 6-3, 6-4; V Santopadre (It) bt G Kuerten (Br) 6-3, 6-2; W Ferreira (SA) bt B Becker (Ger) 3-6, 6-3, 6-4. O Gross (Ger) bt M Puerta (Arg) 7-6, 7-5.
PRAGUE: Czech Open: First round: T Zib (Cz) bt M Safin (Russ) 1-6, 6-1, 7-5; E Nicolas (Sp) bt J Krostak (Slovakia) 6-2, 6-0; C Pioline (Fr) bt J Novak (Cz) 7-6, 0-6, 7-6; A Cherkasov (Russ) bt D Miketa (Cz) 5-7, 6-4, 6-2; G Puentes (Sp) bt J Tarango (US) 6-2, 6-1; O Stanoitchev (Bul) bt V Liukko (Fin) 6-2, 6-3; A Ilie (Aus) bt S Prieto (Arg) 6-2, 6-4; F Vicente (Sp) bt T Ketola (Fin) 6-1, 6-3; R Fromberg (Aus) bt Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 6-4, 2-6, 6-4; N Lapentti (Ec) bt R Svetlik (Cz) 6-0, 6-4; M Tabara (Cz) bt R Stepanek (Cz) 6-4, 6-1.
HAMBURG GRAND PRIX: First round: N Tauziat (Fr) bt E Likhovtseva (Russ) 6-4, 6-1; D van Roost (Bel) bt B Rittner (Ger) 6-4, 6-0; M Serna (Sp) bt S Plischke (Austria) 6-0, 6-3; M A Sánchez Lorenzo (Sp) bt A Fusai (Fr) 7-6, 6-2.
BOL, Croatia: WTA Tour: First round: A Gersi (Cz) bt T Pisnik (Slovenia) 0-6, 6-4, 7-5, L Masante (Arg) bt I Bracun (Cro) 7-5, 6-3; R Sandu (Rom) bt A Cocheteux (Fr) 6-4, 7-5; M Diaz-Oliva (Arg) bt T Krizan (Slovenia) 2-6, 6-0, 7-6; C Morariu (US) bt R Kucerova (Cz) 6-2, 6-2; I Majoli (Cro) bt Z Hejdova (Cz) 6-2, 6-4. C Torrens-Valero (Sp) bt B Schwartz (Austria) 6-2, 6-4. S Pitkowski (Fr) bt J Husarova (Slovakia) 6-2, 6-2; J Kostanic (Cro) bt K Srebotnik (Slovenia) 6-4, 1-6, 6-2; S Kleinova (Cz) bt A Grahame (Aus) 6-3, 6-7, 7-5; C Martinez-Granados (Sp) bt L Ahl (GB) 7-5, 6-0; S Talaja (Cro) bt C Cristea (Rom) 7-6, 7-6.
HATFIELD: LTA women's satellite tournament: First round: K Elliott (Herts) bt S Sallaberry (Fr) 6-2, 7-5, L Perkins (Durham and Cleveland) bt A Van Den Hurk (Neth) 7-5, 6-2, H Crook (Essex) bt B Auer (Austria) 6-0, 6-2, L Combes (Fr) bt N Payne (N Sco) 6-3, 6-2; A Zaporozhanova (Ukr) bt A Tordoff (Kent) 5-7, 6-3, 6-2; M Losey (Switz) bt K Kamer (Ger) 6-0, 6-1; K Koukalova (Cz) bt E Lebescond (Fr) 6-2, 6-2; K Mraz (Fr) bt J Dawson (Sussex) 7-6, 6-3; H Collin (Surrey) bt K Warne-Holland (Dorset) 6-2, 6-4, J Moore (Warks) bt S Simon (Ger) 6-0, 6-4; S Testard (Fr) bt N Melch (Austria) 6-3, 6-3, V Courmes (Fr) bt R Takemura (Japan) 6-4, 7-5; Y Basting (Neth) bt N Egorova (Russ) 5-7, 6-1, 6-3; B Karpenschif (Fr) bt J Hlavacova (Cz) 3-6, 7-6, 6-1; J Smith (Surrey) bt A Keothavong (Middx) 6-4, 2-6, 6-3, T Musgrave (Aus) bt H Matthews (Berks) 3-6, 7-5, 6-3.
RANKINGS: Men: 1, P Sampras (US); 2, Y Kafelnikov (Russ); 3, A Corretja (Sp); 4, P Rafter (Aus); 5, R Krajicek (Neth); 6, C Moyà (Sp); 7, T Henman (GB); 8, M Rios (Chile); 9, M Philippoussis (Aus), 10, K Kucera (Slovakia); 11, A Agassi (US); 12, T Martin (US); 13, G Rusedski (GB); 14, A Costa (Sp); 15, F Mantilla (Sp); 16, G Kuerten (Br); 17, T Enqvist (Swe); 18, G Ivanisevic (Cro), 19, T Johansson (Swe); 20, T Haas (Ger). **Other British:** 186, C Wilkinson; 272, B Cowan; 299, M Maclagan, 355, M Lee; 378, L Milligan; 387, J Delgado; 424, N Gould; 450, A Parmar 58. **Women:** 1, M Hingis (Switz); 2, L Davenport (US); 3, M Seles (US); 4, J Novotna (Cz); 5, S Graf (Ger); 6, A Sanchez-Vicario (Sp); 7, V Williams (US); 8, M Pierce (Fr), 9, P Schnyder (Switz); 10, S Williams (US); 11, N Tauziat (Fr); 12, S Testud (Fr); 13, A Kournikova (Russ); 14, A Mauresmo (Fr); 15, D Van Roost (Bel); 16, A Coetzer (SA); 17, I Spirlea (Rom); 18, N Zvereva (Bela), 19, C Martinez (Sp); 20, B Schett (Austria).

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

International matches
Germany v Scotland (at Weser Stadium, Bremen)
Hungary v England (at Nep Stadium, Budapest, 7.15)
Ireland v Sweden (at Lansdowne Road, Dublin)

Nationwide Conference
Forest Green v Dover (7.45)
Kingstonian v Southport (7.45)

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Salisbury v Gresley Rovers, Rothwell v Worcester City. **Midland division:** Solihull Borough v Weston-super-Mare
UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Farsley Celtic v Whitley Bay.
RYMAN LEAGUE: First division: Maidenhead v Canvey Island, Romford v Molesey, Wealdstone v Hitchin. **Third division:** Epsom and Ewell v Wingate and Finchley.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Barnet v Chelsea, Brentford v Fulham (2.0), Cambridge United v West Ham United (7.0); Ipswich Town v Watford (7.0), Brighton v Reading (at Worthing Road, 7.0)
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Leicester City v Birmingham City (7.0); Manchester United v Leeds United (7.0), Nottingham Forest v Blackburn Rovers (7.0); Preston North End v Liverpool (7.15), Aston Villa v Everton (7.0). **First division:** Middlesbrough v Coventry City (7.0). **Second division:** Blackpool v Shrewsbury Town (7.0), Bradford City v Wrexham (2.0), Huddersfield Town v Newcastle United (7.0); Lincoln City v Sheffield United (2.0); Notts County v Rotherham United (2.0), Scarborough v Stockport County (7.0). **Third division:** Bury v Darlington (2.0), Chester City v Chesterfield (2.0), Scunthorpe United v Walsall (7.0), Wigan Athletic v Hull City (2.0); Halifax Town v Hartlepool United (2.0).
FA PREMIER ACADEMY LEAGUE UNDER-19: Play-offs, third round: Nottingham Forest v Middlesbrough (2.0).
SCHWEPPES ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Bowers United v Basildon U, Eton Manor v Stansted.
COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Cirencester Academy v Kintbury; EFC Cheltenham v Almondsbury, North Leigh v Abingdon, Shortwood v Harrow Hill; Swindon Supermarine v Fairford
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Premier division: Beckenham v Chatham
SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Brislington v Backwell.
MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Islington St Mary's v New Bradwell St Peter, Toddington v Hillingdon Borough.
BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Bustleholme v Ettingshall, Wolverhampton v Stafford Town
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bury Town v Ipswich. **League Cup: Final:** Felixstowe Port and Town v Sudbury Wanderers.
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Christchurch v Eastleigh
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Hassocks v Burgess Hill.

CRICKET

PPP County Championship
11.0, first day of four
104 overs minimum
CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Hampshire
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Warwickshire
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Sussex
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Middlesex
CANTERBURY: Kent v Derbyshire
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Lancashire
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Surrey
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Worcestershire
SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of three): **Hove:** Sussex v Gloucestershire. **Knowle and Dorridge:** Warwickshire v Nottinghamshire. **Worcester:** Worcestershire v Leicestershire. **York:** Yorkshire v Somerset.

RUGBY UNION

WELSH LEAGUE: Premier division play-offs: Group A: Neath v Ebbw Vale (7.0). **Group B:** Aberavon v Bridgend (7.0), Newport v Caerphilly (7.0). **First division:** UWIC v Tondu (7.0).

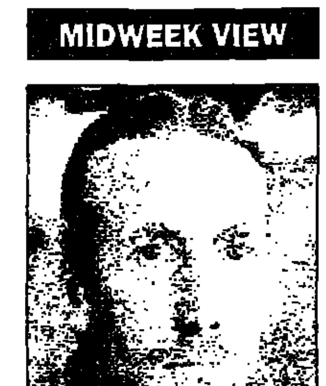
RUGBY LEAGUE

NORTHERN FORD PREMIERSHIP: Rochdale v York (7.30).

Ginola sitting pretty as football prefers style to substance

Victory for the beautiful game

MIDWEEK VIEW



Simon Barnes
Sports Feature Writer of the Year

I feel pretty ... oh so pretty ... I feel pretty and witty and — but let us consider more closely the case of David Ginola, the Player of the Year. It was my dear colleague, Lynne Truss, who imagined Ginola singing the *West Side Story* song as he skipped along the wing, evading full backs with a comely sway of the hips.

A player's player, people like to say in praise of any dingy and anonymous performer whose unspectacular but solid contributions are useful in grinding out 1-0 victories. But, this year, the players' player of the year is Ginola, the fanciest of all Dans, the fanny-merchant *par brillance*, a person whose love of the limelight is equalled only by the fat lady at the end of *Morecambe and Wise*: "And I love you all!"

It is, in its way, a rather shocking award. We are used to the Ginola Polarisation: Des Lynam thinks he's great, being a mere spectator, while Alan Hansen — a man who, to judge by his bulging wardrobe, is hardly immune from the I Feel Pretty Syndrome himself — writes him off as an insubstantial talent, one that merely decorates occasions, a man of more style than substance.

It has become traditional in this country to admire more humdrum talents than Ginola's. Bobby Robson built his England team of the Eighties around Bryan Robson rather than Glenn Hoddle, not so much a footballing decision as a philosophical and perhaps an aesthetic one. England prefers the classical to the baroque: discuss.

In fact, the preference for the dull and solid over the extravagant is a kind of freemasonry. If you like the fancy, you are declaring that you are a dilettante football watcher, a person who does not, at bottom, understand, a person who, at heart, doesn't care. It is an aspect of football's traditional anti-snobbery.

But there is certainly an aesthetic dimension to sport. It is, for most of us, a secondary pleasure, behind the heartland delights of struggle and conflict. But it exists. It lurks in football in the concept of a "good" goal (there is no such thing as a bad goal, by the way).

Hoddle was conscious of this as a player. His delight in the parabola of the floated pass and the chipped goal was at the heart of his game. And the watchers also took delight in this. It is more than a cerebral appreciation of skill — there is a spontaneous pleasure in the mere beauty of it, the more delightful for its context of struggle.

In cricket, there is a tradition that allows an unabashed delight in aesthetics. Cricket watchers will, of course, give cheery applause for a hefty thump, but they reserve a reverential "*Shot!*" for a perfectly executed, grass-scorching extra-cover drive. Mark Waugh is generally regarded as a "better" batsman than his twin, Steve, but Steve is the one man in the world you would choose to score a century — or at least 90-odd — for your life.

Rugby union supporters are always baying at the England team to be prettier, to please their aesthetic sense. "Spin it out!" they shout, demanding a flashy passing movement rather than a forward grind. They boo when England elect to kick a penalty, cheer when they take the gamble and spin it out.

All the horsey sports are, by their nature, beautiful. Stable lads spend hours improving on nature, brushing the most complicated chessboard patterns into the horse's rumps. They want their charges to look as beautiful as possible. It is part of the game.

Track and field athletics is also beautiful. Television's love affair with the slo-mo is never more fully consummated than with athletics, most especially the field events. Leni Reifenstal's film of the 1936 Olympic Games was a celebration of the pure beauty of sport, the competitive element almost forgotten in the beauties of leaping and plunging bodies.

There are some sports that specifically seek beauty. The participants give everything they have as they compete to see who is the most beautiful. The kovacs — the somersaulting release-and-catch move on the high bar in men's gymnastics — is perhaps the most beautiful of all moments in the purely human sports. Gymnastics, skating, diving — all are about the vicious and competitive pursuit of pure beauty.

Oh, there is no denying that sport is full of beauties — have you ever watched greyhounds race over hurdles? And there is no doubt that everyone who watches sport responds to sport's aesthetic dimensions. Ginola's award represents that rare thing: football coming out of the closet and admitting this obvious truth. "What a beautiful goal," we say, with no more self-consciousness than Wordsworth said: "Gosh, what beautiful daffodils." Football celebrates a host of golden Ginolas.



DYLAN MARTINEZ

Ginola's triumph showed that football is now able to recognise and reward talent rather than merely mistrust it

RUGBY LEAGUE

Benchmark shows strength of Leeds

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

IT IS a sure sign of confidence when the substitutes' bench provides more selection headaches than the starting XIII, which is the same for Leeds Rhinos at Wembley on Saturday as the one that beat Wigan Warriors early in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup campaign.

The only doubt was resolved yesterday when Richie Blackmore, whose appearances this season have been restricted to the cup run because of a groin injury, was preferred to Marvin Golden at centre. Golden is doubly unfortunate, having also missed out on the bench, where Leeds have opted for three forwards and one back, Marcus St Hilaire.

Apart from Francis Cummins, who appeared in the 1994 and 1995 finals for Leeds, Blackmore is the only other Rhinos player with Wembley final experience — he played there in 1992 for Castleford. The fact that Shaun Edwards, Martin Offiah and Karle Hammond have played in 16 finals between them is one of the few advantages that London Broncos can boast.

Odds-on to win, Graham Murray, the Leeds coach, eschewed the fashion to talk down his side's chances. "Having beaten Wigan, St Helens and Bradford in the competition gives you some right to be favourites," he said. "We got somewhere back to our best last weekend. The fact punters and bookmakers see us as favourites is not a problem, because we think we have a bit of ability."

Edwards had X-rays taken of his broken thumb yesterday and will see the consultant again tomorrow. Murray is in little doubt that he will be at scrum half for the Broncos. "I think he'll play, but the bottom line is about us," he said. "Sheffield got their game right in the final last year and Wigan didn't. We've got to get our game right."

LEEDS RHINOS: I Harris (captain), L Rivett, R Blackmore, B Godden, F Cummins, D Powell, R Sheridan, B McDermott, T Newton, D Fleary, A Morley, A Farrell, M Glanville. **Substitutes:** M St Hilaire, L Jackson, J Mathiou, A Hay.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

MOROLOGY
(c) Foolish talking. From the Greek words.

LISKIN
(a) Dutch maidservant. From *Liesje*, the diminutive of Elisabeth.

MUNG
(a) Or *moong*. A species of vetch, *Phaseolus Mungo*, common in India. Also, the fibre of this plant, of which mats are made.

LAXIST
(a) One who favours lax views or interpretation, specifically the designation given by modern historians to the school of casuists in the Roman church who maintained that it was justifiable to follow any probability, however slight, in favour of liberty.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE

1 Rxg8+! Kxg8 (1 ... Rxg8 2 Qxe7) 2 Rg1+ Kh8 3 Bg5 and wins.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Potted history of the UK

Leviathan
BBC2, 7.30pm

Here we are, between St George's Day (April 23) and the elections for the Scottish parliament and Welsh assembly. What better time to look at the history of the Union and the prospects for its continuing? Nicky Campbell presents *Union Jocks*, about the history and significance of the relationship between Scotland and England since 1707; Ralph Steadman gives a three-minute guide to the history of the Welsh language; Mark Urban looks back to the first powersharing deal, the Sunningdale agreement, in Northern Ireland.

The Naked Chef
BBC2, 8pm

Jamie Oliver goes from strength to strength in this unfussy series. Tonight he babysits three young female cousins for the day, enlists them in preparing a meal and shows us how to make and stuff fresh pasta and create a super-looking semi-freddo (like ice-cream but funkier). As critics have acknowledged, from the first show, here is a new star chef and the main attraction is that he does not seem to want to be, or know that he might be, a star: the food is what matters.

h&p@bbc
BBC1, 9.35pm

The only radical thing about Gareth Hale and Norman Pace's new show is the fact that they seem to have given up even the pretence of being comedians: if there was a gag I missed it. What I did not miss included a spoof celebrity panel quiz featuring the radio DJs Tony Blackburn, "Jonno" Coleman and the Eurovision winner Katrina; a protracted audience participation segment in which a young woman took a screen test and had her efforts spliced into old footage; and a *Celebrity Stars in Their Eyes*, for which Anthea Turner was transformed into a double parody of Shane McGowan, the heavy-drinking former leader of The Pogues. Makes *Families at War* look even more like a work of genius.

The violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter plays Beethoven (BBC2, 11.20pm)

Anne-Sophie Mutter: My Year with Beethoven
BBC2, 11.20pm (except Scotland)

At the opposite end of the cultural food chain, here is the top classical violinist of the age, filmed travelling the world and performing, along with accompanist Lambert Orkis, Beethoven's ten violin sonatas. Mutter's absolute commitment to her art is as compelling as her virtuosity. This series makes clear that such high artistry is built on an informed, utterly disciplined approach. Seven of the ten sonatas are featured in this series.
Tony Patrick

International football: Hungary v England
Sky Sports 2, 6.30pm

Having survived possible postponement because of the proximity of the conflict in the Balkans and Kevin Keegan's concerns that this may be a meaningless friendly, England's trip to Budapest goes ahead. Hungary may no longer be the team they were in the 1950s but this could still represent a useful yardstick as to the Euro 2000 potential of certain England players. With Michael Owen out for the rest of the season with a hamstring injury, Keegan is persisting with Alan Shearer in attack, in tandem with Kevin Phillips. **Louise Godfrey**

RADIO CHOICE

Composer of the Week/Jazz Notes
Radio 3, midday and 11.30pm

No devotee of Duke Ellington will be unaware that this week marks his centenary. BBC Radio is pulling out all the stops to celebrate the occasion. Of course, there is no shortage of music or words to draw upon. Nor should there be, considering the multiplicity of hats "the Duke" wore — composer, conductor, pianist, arranger. Radio 2 is well into Russell Davies's *Sweet Thunder* series on Tuesday and, pushing the boat out in spectacular fashion every day this week, Radio 3 devotes its *Composer of the Week* slot to "the Duke", and so does *Jazz Notes*. This morning, *Composer of the Week* recalls how the decline in Ellington's fortunes after the Second World War was reversed when he took part in the 1956 Newport Jazz Festival.

The 1999 Reith Lecture
Radio 4, 8pm

Professor Anthony Giddens's fourth lecture is about the family. There was no preview tape available but I have seen a summary of what I am assured were the main points. One sentence is of particular interest, given that the city in which the lecture was recorded is Washington, where the Clinton-Lewinsky cliffhanger was played out. It reads: "Among the changes going on in the world, none are more important than those happening in our personal lives — in sexuality, relationships, marriage and the family." Giddens talks of "a pure relationship" which depends on "the processes of active trust, opening one's self up to the other". Questions are invited from the audience. One of them comes from Hillary Clinton. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30am Chris Moyles **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley **2.00pm** Mark Radcliffe **4.00** Dave Pearce **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Dave Pearce **8.00** Steve Lamacq. The Evening Session **10.00** Movie Update with Mark Kermode **10.10** John Peel. Cornelius, live from the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London **12.00** Gilles Peterson **2.00am** Clive Warren **4.00** Scott Mills

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **12.00** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Ed Stewart **5.05** Richard Allinson **7.00** Nick Barraclough **8.00** Mike Harding **9.00** Giants of Soul. Singer Daryl Hall takes a look at the career of Diana Ross (5/8) **10.00** Tom Paxton: Still Ramblin' (4/8) **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.00** Katrina Leskanich **3.00am** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** Breakfast **9.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00** News **1.00pm** Ian Payne **4.00** Drive **7.00** News Extra **7.10** John Inverdale's Football Night. Commentary on tonight's friendly internationals, including Hungary v England, Germany v Scotland, and Ireland v Sweden **10.00** Dominik Diamond **11.00** Late Night Live **1.00am** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Let's Talk Pets **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **4.00** The Sports Zone **7.00** Off Side with Sebastian Coe **8.00** Sportzone: Hungary v England **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

VIRGIN

6.30am The Breakfast Show **9.30** Russ Williams **1.00pm** Nick Abbot **4.00** Harriet Scott **6.45** Pete and Geoff **10.00** Gary Davies **1.00am** Richard Allen **4.30** Phil Kennedy

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00am The World Today **7.00** World News **7.15** Outlook **7.55** My Century **8.00** World News **8.05** World Business Report **8.15** Insight **8.30** Sports International **9.00** World News **9.05** Westway **9.20** Off the Shelf: Frankenstein **9.35** One Planet **10.00** World News **10.05** Sounds Right **10.20** Blues World **10.50** Sports Round-Up **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Britain Today **11.45** World Business Report **12.00** Newsdesk **12.30pm** Sports International **1.00** World News **1.05** Outlook **1.45** Sports Round-Up **2.00** Newshour **3.00** World News **3.05** One Planet **3.30** Meridian Live **4.00** World News **4.05** Sports Round-Up **4.15** From Our Own Correspondent **4.30** Jazzmatazz **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Insight **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Performance **6.45** Sports Round-Up **7.00** World News **7.15** Britain Today **7.30** Sports International **8.00** World News **8.05** One Planet **8.30** From Our Own Correspondent **8.45** Off the Shelf: Frankenstein **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.05** World Business Report **10.20** Britain Today **10.30** On Screen **11.00** World News **11.15** Sports Round-Up **11.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **12.00** World News **12.05am** Outlook **12.45** Insight **1.00** The World Today **1.30** One Planet **1.55** My Century **2.00** The World Today **2.30** Meridian Live **3.00** The World Today **3.30** World Business Report **3.45** Insight **4.00** The World Today **4.20** Sports Round-Up **4.30** The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey's Easier Breakfast. Music and information updates **8.00** Henry Kelly. The Hall of Fame Hour and CD of the Week **12.00** Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones spins listeners' favourites **2.00pm** Concerto. Joseph Horovitz (Trumpet Concerto) **3.00** Jamie Crick. Including Continuous Classics and Afternoon Romance **6.30** Newsnight. Headlines, arts news and guests **7.00** Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces easy-listening sounds **9.00** Evening Concert. Schumann (Overture, Julius Caesar); Brahms (Serenade No 1 in D major); Schumann (Violin Concerto in D minor, Fantasy Pieces) **11.00** Mann at Night. Music until the small hours **2.00am** Concerto. Joseph Horovitz (Trumpet Concerto) in **3.00** Mark Griffiths. The Early Breakfast Show

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air With Petroc Trelawny. Music includes Parry's *English Suite*, performed by the LSO
9.00 Masterworks With Peter Hobday. *Corelli* (Concerto grosso in F, Op 6 No 9); **9.10** Telemann (Cantata, Wer nur den lieben Gott lasst walten); **9.27** Mozart (Flute Quartet in A, K298); **9.38** Prokofiev, trans Nikolaeva (Peter and the Wolf); **9.59** Haydn (Symphony No 92 in G, Oxford)
10.30 **Artist of the Week** *Clarinettist Emma Johnson*
11.00 Sound Stories Master of the King's Music
12.00 Composer of the Week: Duke Ellington With Geoffrey Smith. See Choice
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Ronan O'Hora, piano. Chopin (Polonaise in F sharp minor, Op 44; *Mazurka in A* minor, Op 59 No 1; Scherzo No 1 in B minor, Op 20; Two Nocturnes, Op 27; Ballade No 1 in G minor, Op 23)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Tadaaki Otaka, Leon McCawley, piano. Bizet (Suite, L'arlesienne); Chopin (Piano Concerto No 1 in E minor); Franck (Symphony in D minor)
4.00 Choral Evensong Live from the Chapel of New College, Oxford, with the Band of Instruments
5.00 In Tune Includes Schumann's *Introduction and Allegro Appassionato*. (Murray Perahia, piano)
7.30 Performance on 3 Yo-Yo Ma, cello. Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra under Ton Koopman. Rameau (Suite, Dardanus); Bach, trans Koopman (Ihr Menschen, ruhmet Gottes Liebe; Air from Suite No 3 in D, Jesu Nahmn zu Sich die Zwolfe, Die Elenden Sollen Essen, Erbarme Dich, St Matthew Passion); *Boccherini (Cello Concerto No 7 in G, G480)*; Mozart (Symphony No 29 in A, K201)
9.10 Postscript What makes a great musical setting?
9.30 Mahler Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen. Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, baritone, Philharmonia under Wilhelm Furtwangler
10.00 **The Piano** *Piers Lane profiles Maurizio Pollini*
11.00 Night Waves Laura Cumming discusses the exhibition *New Art for a New Era* at the Barbican in London, the first showing outside Russia of works drawn from the Museum of Artistic Culture
11.30 Jazz Notes See Choice
12.00 Through the Night Including **12.05** Mendelssohn (Prelude and Fugue in E minor, Op 35 No 1); **12.15** Bach (Prelude and Fugue in E minor, Op 35 No 1); **12.15** Bach (Prelude and Fugue in D, 48, Book 2); **12.20** Bartok (Dance Suite), **12.35** Soproni (Meditation), **12.45** Sken (Concerto No 3), **1.00** Brahms (Piano Concerto No 2), **1.45** Weiss (Suite No 17); **2.15** Strauss (Suite in B flat); **2.45** Beethoven (Variations in F, Op 34); **3.00-4.30** Schools: Time and Tune; **3.20** Together; **3.40** Dance Workshop. **4.00** EAL Playtime; **4.20** *Counting Time*, **4.30** *Stravinsky (Ragtime)*; **4.35** Martin (Ballade), **4.50** J.C. Bach (Quintet in G). **5.05** Music by Arnaut Daniel; **5.15** Spohr (Duo concertante in D); **5.35** Brahms (Variations on a Theme by Haydn). **5.50** Forqueray (La regente)

RADIO 4

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Inshore Forecast
5.45 Prayer for the Day With Pastor Lindsay Allen
5.47 Farming Today Presented by Anna Hill
6.00 Today Presented by James Naughtie and John Humphrys. Including Thought for the Day
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 Midweek Presented by Libby Purves
9.45 (FM) Serial: Nathaniel's Nutmeg Ben Onwukwe reads the third extract from Giles Milton's *account* of Anglo-Dutch rivalry in the East Indies
9.45 (LW) Daily Service
10.00 Woman's Hour With Jenni Murray and guests Drama: *Postcards*, by Nick Darke
11.00 Inside Track Christen Youren shares her hopes *of matching her cowgirl mother*'s achievements in the male-dominated world of rodeo riding (2/4) (r)
11.30 Bristow Frank Dickins' classic cartoon strip (2/6)
12.00 (FM) News
12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.04pm You and Yours
1.00 The World at One With Nick Clarke
1.30 Points of Law Legal quiz, chaired by Richard Evans, with Mark Stephens, Eileen Pembridge, Peter Carter-Ruck and Marcel Berlins
2.00 The Archers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: When We Were Queens Peter Straughan's tale of teenage runaways whose lives are turned around by becoming Shakespearean queens. Dax O'Callahan and Leyland O'Brien star
3.00 Gardeners' Question Time Bob Flowerdew, Nigel Colborn and John Cushnie answer questions put by gardeners from the Women's Common Room club of Queen's University, Belfast (r)
3.30 Naming the Universe Pictures in the Sky. Heather Couper explores the night sky, revealing the hidden stories of the *constellations* (3/5)
3.45 This Sceptred Isle Anna Massey narrates part 83 of the history of Britain (r)
4.00 Thinking Allowed Dr Steve Reicher of St *Andrew's University discusses his research into* crowd behaviour
4.30 Case Notes Blood (r)
5.00 PM With Clare English and Chris Lowe
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 King Street Junior Jim Eldridge's comedy-drama *set in a junior school (5/6)* (r)
7.00 The Archers More action from Ambridge
7.15 Front Row Arts review presented by Mark Lawson
7.45 Postcards Flotsam and Jetsam. Part three of Nick Darke's tale, with Diana Berriman and Mike Shepherd (r)
8.00 The 1999 Reith Lectures See Choice
9.00 Altered States A Trip to Death and Back. Insight into the delicate work of anaesthetists. Presented by Vivienne Parry (2/3) (r)
9.30 Midweek With Libby Purves and guests (r)
10.00 The World Tonight Justin Webb presents
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Service of Clouds Joanna David reads part eight of Susan Hill's tale
11.00 Late Night on 4: Old Harry's Game The Final Reckoning. Andy Hamilton's award-winning comedy, set in Hell, starring James Grout and Jimmy Mulville. God sends a team of archangels to investigate dodgy dealings in the Underworld. Last in the series (6/6)
11.30 (FM) I'm Glad You Asked Me That Offbeat guide to modern living, with Michael Bywater, Sean Meo and Philip Pope (r)
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament
12.00 News
12.30am The Late Book: Biggest Elvis Ron Berglas reads part eight of P F Kluge's novel (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO** MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Perry Cleveland-Peck, Ian Hughes, Gillian Maxey, Jane Gregory and Barry O'Keefe

Quizzical snapshot of the English at play

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

Was Martin Parr, who made **Thinking of England** for BBC2's *Modern Times*, sniggering at that middle-aged couple in their seaside bed-and-breakfast as they admitted never having been abroad (thereby, they were sure, sparing them tummy upsets), and as they swooned at the loveliness of their modest lodgings, and as they licked their lips when their traditional Sunday-roast-and-three-veg arrived? Or was Parr celebrating the contentment they were able to reap from the native pleasures of England, while their compatriots waited in airport lounges for delayed flights to overcrowded resorts in too hot countries?

Much of Parr's film hugged that thin line between laughing with people and laughing at them — those Little Englanders, those inarticulate Liverpudlians, those braying champagne drinkers at Henley. But part of Parr's talent as a stills photographer — he is a *Magnum* man — is that however unglamorous the poses in which he catches his subjects, an underlying sense of affection stops the photographs looking (too) cruel.

He has perfected this photographic art so magnificently, you wondered at first why he should bother to make a film; much as you might wonder what the point is of transferring a bespoke radio show such as *Just a Minute* to television. But in *Thinking of England* Parr has succeeded in capturing the flavour of his snapshots of English life on video, too. Here, again, were his usual suspects: sandwiches eaten in car seats by couples looking out to sea: Thermos flasks; windswept beaches; village cricket; men watching football on a pub's TV; village fêtes; tombolas; biggest-rhubarb competitions; pony rides on the beach; jingoism; racism; friendliness; poached salmon eaten from the boots of Rolls-Royces during the Season; trainspotters at Crewe on a Sunday afternoon; there was even a bald man protecting his head from the sun with a knotted handkerchief.

The angle of the camera, the way the shots were framed, meant you could have taken stills from this film and still recognised in them Martin Parr's photographic signature. It bore something of the relationship to Parr's photographs that an animated film has to the cartoon strip on which it is based. Here, instead of having to guess what his subjects might be thinking, we could actually hear them. What did this man in a supermarket like about England? "Everything. I fought in the war, put it that way."

Nobody really had too bad a word to say for the place. It may not always have been an Englishness you empathise with, but it was always an Englishness you could easily recognise. Parr's isn't necessarily a portrait of England you would want foreigners to see: it is one thing if *you* squirm at something that your mother said, but that doesn't mean you would tolerate an outsider taking potshots at her. *Thinking of England* wasn't always uplifting, but it was nevertheless an affectionate film made by a member of the family, for the family.

For a truly depressing snapshot of English life, you could have watched **The Decision: Dodger** (Channel 4), about a boy hopelessly trapped in the vortex of despair and delinquency. David Richardson, known as Dodger, has spent a third of his 15 years in care. He is clearly scarred by his mother's decision — taken when he was seven — to sign him over to social services: "You could of got us back earlier, but you didn't want us back," he still scolds her.

Dodger skips school. He is in trouble with the police. His health is poor. The abdication of parental responsibility seems obvious to everybody except Dodger's mother Jackie, whose cussed manner has exasperated 17 social workers over the years. Emotionally bruised, Dodger is also physically deprived. Although he is back at home with his mother and sister, they take it in turns to sleep on the one bed in the house. Dena, his social worker, is driven to despair by the mother's attitude. Eventually she feels she has no alternative but to recommend taking Dodger back into care. The most depressing aspect of this decision is not that it almost ensures Dodger will be catapulted into stormier emotional turmoil and maybe even closer familiarity with the police, but that this bleak option was thought the rosiest prospect on Dodger's horizon.

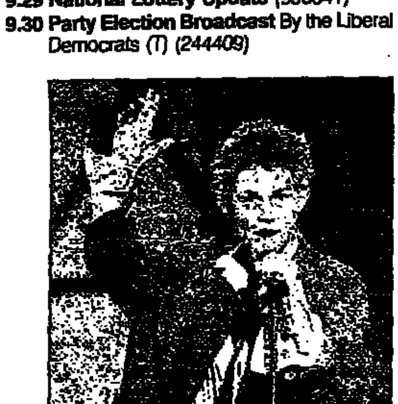
As with last week's film in this three-part series, which delved into the case notes of a 15-year-old girl beginning life as a single mother, Oliver Morse, the producer, steers clear of shaping your opinion. Then again, he doesn't need to. This is Martin Parr, without the reassuring God-bless-Blighty undertow.

Few Englishmen can carry off the smart-casual look the way men can on the Continent, where even prime ministers are happy to take cabinet meetings in a sports jacket. Here, men still feel nobody will take them seriously unless their jacket and trousers match. Even now, Richard Branson's "bohemian" dress sense is thought noteworthy in business profiles.

But BBC2's new series, **Ready to Wear**, showed that Englishmen have come a long way since the 1950s, when even a pattern on your socks, let alone an Italian suit, might lead people to think — as one contributor put it — you were "that way". Still, Englishmen's initial rebellion against the suit were not always successful. They leapt into flares you could house a family of refugees under: lapels as wide as Heathrow landing strips; and tank tops so colourful that they must have been made of leftovers from their granny's wool box. Some of Martin Parr's most endearing photographs are of Englishmen who still dress this way.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (10596)
7.00 *BBC Breakfast News* (T) (72003)
9.00 Kilroy (T) (9567770) **9.45 Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook** (r) (T) (376409)
10.15 *The Vanessa Show* (T) (2390634)
11.00 News; Weather (T) (5428374)
11.05 City Hospital (T) (9638003)
11.55 News; Weather (T) (6041026)
12.00 Going for a Song (8839913)
12.25pm Just a Minute (T) (5689490)
12.55 The Weather Show (T) (11135428)
1.00 News; Weather (T) (75190)
1.30 Regional News; Weather (58566480)
1.40 Neighbours (T) (95788119)
2.00 Through the Keyhole (T) (6916)
2.30 Snooker and Racing from Ascot Snooker: Quarter-final coverage from the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. Racing: **3.05** Insulpak Sagaro Stakes and the **3.40** Insulpak Victoria Cup (97645)
4.00 Children's BBC: Starhill Ponies (1853312) **4.10** The Adventures of Shirley Holmes (7874596) **4.35** The Demon Headmaster (7013119) **5.00** Newsround (5045916) **5.10** Blue Peter (2806515)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (259664)
6.00 Six O'Clock News; *Weather (T) (683)*
6.30 Regional News Magazine (935)
7.00 Holiday Behaving Badly *Men Behaving Badly* stars Leslie Ash, Neil Morrissey, Caroline Quentin and Martin Clunes send postcards from such diverse destinations as London, San Francisco, Costa Rica and Perth in Australia (T) (6472)
7.30 ***Tomorrow's World: WebWise Special*** Hale and Pace join Philippa Forrester and Peter Snow at the British Library in London for the launch of the BBC's technology education campaign (T) (119)
8.00 Changing Rooms Neighbours in Wales take up the challenge of transforming a room in each others' house (r) (T) (9480)
8.30 ***Battersea Dogs' Home*** *(T) (524596)*
8.50 The National Lottery: Greatest Hits Angela Griffin presents the midweek draw, with live music from Curiosity Killed the Cat (T) (400577)
9.00 News; Weather (T) (6751)
9.29 National Lottery Update (990041)
9.30 Party Election Broadcast By the Liberal Democrats (T) *(244409)*



Anthea Turner impersonates Shane McGowan of The Pogues (9.35pm)

9.35 CHOICE **h&p@bbc** Variety show, *presented by the comedians* Hale and Pace (T) (825916)
10.15 Crimewatch File (172461)
11.00 Panorama Special: The Killing of Kosovo (899521)
11.40 Film 99 with Jonathan Ross Reviews of *At First Sight* and *eXistenZ* (T) (877732)
12.10am The Devil's Bed (1994) Romantic thriller, with Nicollette Sheridan. *Directed* by Sam Pillsbury (1814981) FILM
1.40 Weather (2692271)
1.45 BBC News 24 *(54235504)*

BBC2

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Noddy in Toyland (74461) **7.30** *Top Cat* (8517645) **7.55** Trading Places: French Exchange (8872138) **8.20** Dastardly and Muttley **8.40** Polka Dot Shorts **8.50** Pingu (3059312) **8.58** Tales from the Net (1608119) **9.00** The Geography Programme **9.10** Numbertime (4588393) ***9.25*** *Folk Dance (9140799)* ***9.45*** *Words* and Pictures **10.00** Teletubbies (70157) **10.30** Numbertime **10.45** Cats' Eyes (9028645) **11.05** Number Adventures (6947480) **11.20** The Geography *Programme* **11.40** Science in Action (2847393) **12.00** Shakespeare: The Animated Tales (25206) **12.30pm** Working Lunch (43190)
1.00 Children's BBC: Brum (38708157)
1.10 Snooker and Racing from Ascot Snooker: Action from the second day of the quarter-finals. Racing: The **2.30** EBF Insulpak Swinley Stakes (82461022)
2.45 News; Weather (T) (8882732)
2.50 Westminster (T) (6104461)
3.55 News; Weather (T) (7688577)
4.00 Snooker and Racing from Ascot *Snooker: Quarter-final coverage. Racing:* The **4.10** Gardener Merchant Pavilion Stakes *(21456303)*
5.50 Lifeline (849577) **6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation** (r) (T) (188954)
6.45 Snooker: ***World Championship*** Conclusion of the quarter-finals (566003)
7.28 Tales from the Net (T) (587645)
7.30 CHOICE ***Leviathan*** *Celebrities pay* tribute to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (461)



Star chef Jamie Oliver prepares a feast of fresh pasta (8pm)

8.00 CHOICE **The Naked Chef** New culinary series, presented by chef Jamie Oliver (T) (7022)
8.30 Home Front (T) (6157)
9.00 Snooker: ***World Championship*** Conclusion of the quarter-finals (5022)
10.30 Party Election Broadcast (362190)
10.35 Newsnight *(T) (950461)*
11.18 Video Nation Shorts from the Balkans (T) (895138)
11.20 CHOICE ***Anne-Sophie Mutter:*** **My Year with Beethoven** World tour by the German violinist (195732)
11.55 Weather (299190)
12.00 Despatch Box (80784)
12.30am BBC Learning Zone: OU: Seal Secrets (88523) **1.00** Walking and Running (48542) **1.30** Swimming in Fish *(69523)* ***2.00*** Schools: PSHE — Lifeschool A-Z (51146) **4.00** Languages: Make French Your Business *(20078)* ***5.00*** Business and Training: Web Wise (3746368) **5.45** OU: The Great Iron and *Steel* Rollercoaster (2243726) **6.10** Rocks for Roads (4095829)

WALES

5.50pm-6.00 Lifeline from Wales (T) (849577)

HTV WEST

5.30am ITV Morning News (56886)
6.00 GMTV *(2400480)*
9.25 Trisha (T) (3153751)
10.30 This Morning (T) (49777119)
12.15pm HTV News (T) (7623003)
12.30 ITV News; Weather (T) (2254157)
12.55 Shortland Street (1313935)
1.30 Home and Away Has Marilyn committed suicide? (T) (16713461)
1.55 The Jerry Springer Show Outrageous American talk show (T) (5688119)
2.40 Wheel of Fortune (T) (2677374)
3.10 ITV News Headlines *(T) (5378770)*
3.15 HTV News (T) (5377041)
3.20 CITV: Maisy (5374954) **3.25** The Story *Store (6392190)* ***3.40*** *Jumanji (2008409)* **4.05** Hey Arnold! (7672916) **4.35** Wildtrack (7031515)
5.00 Home and Away *(r)* (T) (5664)
5.30 Live and Local (138)
5.58 HTV Weather *(844022)*
6.00 HTV News (T) (122312)
6.25 Party Election Broadcast By the Liberal *Democrats (461848)*
6.29 Crimestoppers (461848)
6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather (T) (913)
7.00 Emmerdale Biff and Chris come to blows (T) (5428)
7.30 Coronation Street Mike's future looks increasingly bleak (T) (515)



Meryl Streep and Clint Eastwood share a romantic interlude (8pm)

8.00 ***The Bridges of Madison County (1995)*** Romantic drama. Italian housewife Meryl Streep meets *itinerant* photographer Clint Eastwood searching for rural Iowa's famous covered bridges — *and it is not long before the pair realise* they have found the soulmates they have been seeking *all their lives.* Directed by Clint Eastwood (T) (990461) FILM
10.30 The Big Match Highlights of Hungary v *England (39409)*
11.00 ITV Nightly News; Weather (T) (724916)
11.20 HTV News and Weather (T) (440577)
11.30 ***Eastwood on Eastwood*** *Profile of* actor-director Clint Eastwood (r) (881515)
12.35am Mystery Date (1991) A wanted criminal lends his car to his younger brother for the evening — but fails to tell *him about the corpse in the boot.* Black comedy, starring Ethan Hawke. Directed by Jonathan Wacks (865879) FILM
2.20 Night of the Prowler (1962) An executive frames his partner for murder *so he can take over their company.* Thriller, with Patrick Holt. Directed by Francis A. Searle (8369287) FILM
3.30 Trisha (r) (T) (95368)
4.30 The Making of Lock, Stock and Two ***Smoking Barrels*** *(r) (23233)*
5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (41843)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: ***5.30pm-5.58 Get Gardening!*** Tips on taking cuttings (T) (138)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.20-12.30pm Central News and Weather (9841732)
12.55 Home and Away (2239848)
1.25 The Jerry Springer **Show** (4403664)
2.10-2.40 Echo Point (89476935)
3.15-3.20 Central News; Weather (5377041)
5.30 Shortland Street (138)
6.00-6.25 Central News at Six; Weather *(122312)*
11.20-11.30 Central News; Weather (440577)
4.25am Central Jobfinder '99 (7596875)
5.20-5.30 Asian Eye *(9005146)*

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.15pm Westcountry News *(7623003)*
12.27-12.30 Illuminations (9859751)
12.55-1.25 Westcountry Lunchtime Live; Weather *(2239848)*
1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (4403664)
2.10-2.40 Home and Away (89476935)
3.15-3.20 Westcountry News; Weather (5377041)
4.59-5.00 Birthday People *(8342616)*
5.30 Mad About Shopping (138)
6.00-6.25 Westcountry Live; Weather (122312)
11.20-11.30 Westcountry News; Weather (440577)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.15-12.30pm Meridian News; Weather *(7623003)*
5.30 Wildlife SOS (138)
6.00-6.25 Meridian Tonight (122312)
7.29-7.30 Meridian Weather (514799)
11.20-11.30 Meridian News; Weather (440577)
5.00-5.30am Freescreen *(41843)*

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: **12.14pm Anglia Air Watch** *(9861596)* ***12.15-12.30 Anglia News*** **and Weather** (7623003) **5.29 Anglia Air Watch** (9874436) **5.30 Intuition** (138) **5.58 Anglia Weather** (T) *(844022)* **6.00-6.25 Anglia News** (T) (122312) **11.19 Anglia Air Watch** (882664) ***11.20-11.30 Anglia News and*** **Weather** (T) (440577)

S4C

Starts: ***6.00am Sesame Street*** *(r) (86837374)* **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (69403515) **9.00 Ysgolion:** The English Programme (63957041) **9.30 Rat-A-Tat-Tat** (37233683) **9.45 Book Box** (37238138) **10.00 Stage Two Science** *(62141664)* ***10.15 All About Us*** (62164515) **10.30 The Number Crew** (39415225) **10.45 Pitch Fever** (39403480) **11.00 First Edition** (25881751) **11.15 The X File** (25871374) **11.30 Powerhouse** (T) (90115409) **12.00 Home** ***Improvement*** *(T) (63944577)* **12.30pm Sesame Street** (T) (93835645) **1.00 Planed Plant** (T) (69473374) **1.30 Little Gems** (85065206) **1.45 FILM: Julie** (T) (97340683) **3.30 Collectors' Lot** (T) (99896428) **4.00** ***Fifteen-to-One*** (T) (99875935) **4.30 Ricki Lake** (T) (99871119) **5.00 Planed Pl ant** (T) *(41246732)* ***5.30 Countdown*** *(T)* (99895799) **6.00 Party Election Broadcast** (70607003) **6.05 Newyddion 6** (T) (70606374) **6.10 Heno** (T) (65528041) **6.50 Pobol y Cwm** (T) (84778916) **7.20 Y Clwb Rygbi** (T) (23251206) ***9.15 Darleddiad Etholiadol*** (17784596) **9.50 Etholiad '99** (84323664) **10.05 Brookside** (T) (51619935) **10.40 ER** (T) (69352770) **11.35 Spin City** (T) (67847799) **12.05am The 11 O'Clock Show** (15786894) **12.35 Gazzetta** ***Football Italia*** (20095894) **3.00 Trans World Sport** (48226707) **4.00 Diwedd**

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (r) (71026)
7.00 The Big Breakfast *(98041)*
9.00 Schools: The English Programme (30138) **9.30** Rat-A-Tat-Tat (7948732) **9.45** Book Box (7976515) **10.00** Stage Two Science (1141374) **10.15** All About Us (1184225) **10.30** The Number Crew (3500480) **10.40** Pitch Fever (9047770) ***11.00*** *First Edition V (6940577)* ***11.15*** The X File (6963428)
11.30 Powerhouse (T) (4634)
12.00 Sesame Street (T) (10374)
12.30pm Bewitched (r) (T) (78886)
1.00 Suddenly Susan (64288)
1.30 Little Gems *Nostalgia (r) (T) (58573770)*
1.45 Earthscape The endangered warthog (T) (13533935)
1.55 The Pied Piper (1942) Wartime adventure about French children *escaping from the Nazis.* Monty Woolley and Roddy McDowall star. Directed by Irving Pichel *(T) (21169770)* FILM
3.30 Collectors' Lot Collectibles relating to William Shakespeare, a house filled with *peculiar oddments, and the continuing* restoration of a 1940s wireless (T) (409)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (916)
4.30 Countdown (T) (7030886)
4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (9885119)
5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (480)
6.00 Dawson's Creek Dawson wins a prize for his short film. Jen lets her hair down at a party and Andie *attempts to boost* Pacey's self-esteem (T) (164374)
6.50 T4orce (994886).
7.00 Channel 4 News; *Weather (T) (476041)*
7.55 Margaret Thatcher: Where Am I Now? Steve Bell's animated look at the Thatcher years (3/5) (T) (374393)
8.00 Brookside (T) (2190)
8.30 She's Gotta Have It How to look stylish at work without breaking the bank, plus two women buy a new outfit on vastly *different budgets (T) (1225)*



Eric La Salle (Dr Benton) finds his career is under threat (9pm)

9.00 ER Corday faces questioning from Weaver over the complaint she lodged about Romano, Hathaway and Ross help a dying boy, and Benton's career is on the line (T) (4645)
10.00 Spin City Supermodel Heidi Klum guest-stars (T) (11003)
10.30 Eurotrash (r) (T) (20751)
11.00 The 11 O'Clock Show *(1206)*
11.30 Jo Whiley (r) (T) (483409)
12.20am Football Italia: Mezzanotte *(53691455)*
2.45 Trans World Sport (638097)
3.45 Electric Avenue Last in the series (4/4) (r) (T) (70610)
4.15 Frieda (1947) Second World War drama, starring Mai Zetterling as a German nurse who suffers hostility and abuse after arriving in England with her British husband. Directed by Basil Dearden (T) (640726) FILM

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport With Becky Anderson (5361041)
7.00 WideWorld Part four. Media attention *surrounding the American President,* including interviews with Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford (r) (T) (2228157)
7.30 Milkshake! (2016515)
7.35 Muppet Babies; 5 News Update *(4447428)*
8.00 Havakazoo (r) (8210461)
8.30 Dappledown Farm (r); 5 News Update *(8219732)*
9.00 The Roseanne Show (r) (5923770)
9.50 Russell Grant's Postcards (r) (8331003)
9.55 The Bold and the Beautiful James receives a *shock the morning after (T)* (8167022)
10.20 Sunset Beach Cole realises the truth about Trey (T) (4623683)
11.10 Leeza (r) (3395848)
12.00 5 News at Noon (T) (8220848)
12.30pm Family Affairs (r) (T); 5 News Update (9231587)
1.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show The chat show host talks to the Duchess of York (4298409)
1.50 McMillan and Wife: Reunion In Terror **(TVM 1975)** Mac is drawn into another murder case while attending his high school reunion. Mystery thriller, with Rock Hudson and Susan Saint James. Directed by Mel Ferber; 5 News Update (54406428) FILM
3.10 The Third Day (1965) A man suffering from amnesia tries to piece together his fragmented memories of the past, but his investigations lead to a shocking accusation of murder. Crime thriller, with George Peppard. *Directed by* Jack Smight (34328515) FILM
5.20 5 News (59639409)
5.30 100 Per Cent *(6518312)*
6.00 5 News; Weather. Round-up of the day's stories, including First on Five (T) (6515225)
6.30 Family Affairs (T); 5 News Update (6506577)
7.00 Police Squad Spoof cop comedy, with Leslie Nielsen (2525461)
7.30 ***Wild in the USA*** Comparison between the common red fox and its lesser-known relative the kit fox (T); 5 News Update (6595461)
8.00 Nature's Fury Personal accounts of natural disasters, including earthquakes in Japan, Mexico and India, plus home-video footage of approaching *tornadoes and hurricanes (r) (T);* 5 News Update (9716428)
9.00 Chains of Gold (1991) John Travolta co-wrote and stars in this drama as a social worker whose dedication to the job *prompts him to rescue a youngster in his* care who has fallen foul of a ruthless drug-dealing gang. With Joey Lawrence, Marilu Henner and Hector Elizondo. Directed by Rod Holcomb (T) (49668683) FILM
10.50 Barcelona v Brazil Highlights Introduced by Steve Scott (4015003)
11.30 UK Raw (4501664)
12.00 Major League Baseball Live (9012523)
4.30am Australian Rules Football Bone-crunching *action (3896566)*
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (6232691)

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● For further listings see Saturday's *Vision*

SKY ONE

7.00am Count Duckula (16461) **7.30** Godzilla *(35596)* ***8.00*** *Pokemon (66577)* **8.30** Hollywood Squares (65848) **9.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (75935) **10.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (24480) **11.00** Guilty! (11916) **12.00** Jenny Jones *(80645)* **1.00pm** Mad About You (15732) **1.30** Jeopardy (29139) **2.00** *Sally Jessy Raphael* (13686) **3.00** Jenny Jones (95003) **4.00** Guilty! (14138) ***5.00*** *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (1003)* **6.00** America's Dumbest Criminals (7515) **6.30** *Friends (8867)* ***7.00*** The Simpsons (3732) **7.30** The Simpsons (7751) **8.00** *Mortal Kombat Conquest (25732)* ***9.00*** *The* X Files (45596) **10.00** Fabulous! (48683) **11.00** Friends *With Jennifer Aniston* (15867) **11.30** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (54664) **12.30am** *The Chris Evans* Breakfast Show (68981) **1.30** Law and Order (23691) **2.30** *Long Play (9120558)*

SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels.
To view any film telephone 0990 800888
SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 51)
U-Turn (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60)
US Marshals (1998)
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59)
Titanic (1997)
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 56)
Fire Down Below (1997)

SKY PREMIER

6.00am About Sarah (1998) (24409) **8.00 Narrow Escape (1997)** (95480) **10.00 Mr Mum (1983)** (79616) **12.00 Kindergarten Cop (1990)** (95003) **2.00pm About Sarah (1998)** *(37577)* **4.00 Narrow Escape (1997)** (56532393) **5.45 Kindergarten Cop (1990)** *(65970577)* **7.30** Barry Norman's Film Night (5931) **8.00 Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery (1997)** (52886) **10.00 The Fan (1996)** (93414799) **12.05am Eye for an Eye (1996)** (429558) **1.50 Last Dance (1996)** (356417) **3.35 The Rich Man's Wife (1996)** (104349)

SKY MOVIEMAX

5.35am Lovestruck (1998) (64350386) **7.10 How I Got into College (1989)** (80577022) **9.00** ***Little Miss Millions*** **(1992)** (84374) **11.00 Wind Dancer (1993)** (42770) ***1.00 How I Got Into*** **College (1989)** (88190) **3.00 The Double Man (1967)** *(58480)* ***5.00 Little Miss Millions*** **(1992)** (75225) **7.00 Wind Dancer (1993)** *(48515)* ***8.30*** *E! News Week in Review* (5683) **9.00 Beverly Hills Ninja (1997)** (53515) ***11.00 Maximum Risk*** **(1997)** (299393) **12.40am The Good Son (1993)** *(6819233)* ***2.05 Dangerous*** **Liaisons (1988)** (192349) **4.05 No Way Back (1996)** *(279252)*

SKY CINEMA

4.00pm Plaza Suite (1971) (7830409) ***6.00 Tarzan and the Lost Safari (1957)*** (36802022) **7.20 The Leopard (1963)** *(77442652)* ***10.00 Honkytonk Man (1982)*** (7811645) **12.00 The Hanging Tree (1957)** *(9501900)* ***1.50am Days of Glory*** **(1944)** (23984366) **3.20 The Pearl of Death (1944)** *(30585287)* **4.30 Caught (1949)** (7597252)

FILMFOUR

6.00pm Nelly and Monsieur Arnaud (1995) (73017954) **7.40** Sunny Spells *(7429374)* **8.00 The Innocents (1961)** (33298935) **9.45 The Man Who Fell to Earth (1976)** (74013526) **12.10am Desperado (1995)** (5211726) **1.55 El Mariachi (1992)** (4410610) **3.20 Get Shorty (1995)** (63520287) **6.00** Close

TNT

9.00pm Mildred Pierce (1945) (56354535) **11.15 All the Fine Young Cannibals (1960)** (99268003) **1.30am Dirty Dingus Magee (1970)** (44959349) **3.00 Mildred Pierce (1945)** (84024813) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre **7.15** World Wrestling Federation: Live Wire **8.15** You're On Sky Sports **9.00** Racing News **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style ***10.00*** Inside Scottish Football **11.00** Rugby League Academy **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style **12.30pm** Total Sport **1.00** International Football **3.00** Inside Scottish Football **4.00** Martial Arts **5.00** World Wrestling Federation Shotgun **6.00** World of Cricket **7.00** Sports Centre **8.30** [illegible] Football: Germany v [illegible] **10.00** Sports Centre **10.15** You're On Sky Sports **11.00** International Football [illegible] **1.00am** Sports Centre **1.15** World of [illegible] **1.45** You're On Sky Sports **2.30** [illegible] League **3.30** Ringside **5.00-5.15** Sports Centre

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics Oz Style **7.30** Sports Centre **7.45** Racing News **8.15** Fastrax **8.45** Sports Centre **9.00** Lacrosse **10.30** Volleyball **12.00** Fastrax **12.30pm** US Golf **2.30** Golf Extra **5.30** World Pool League **6.30** Live International Football: Hungary v England. See Choice **11.00** Golf Extra **2.00am** Rugby League World **3.30** International Football **4.30** International Football **5.30** Sports Centre **5.45** Close

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00am World Wrestling Federation: Shotgun **1.00pm** Fish TV **2.00** Boxing Superbouts **3.00** Tales From the Premiership **3.30** Watersports World **4.30** Volleyball **6.00** Australian Rally Championship **6.30** European Tour Golf Weekly **7.00** Rugby League World **8.30** Ringside **10.00** Unbelievable Sports **10.30** World Pool League **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Football **9.00** Football **10.30** Motorcycling **12.00** Shooting **12.30pm** Tennis **1.00** Golf **2.00** Live Football **4.00** Cliff Diving **4.30** Marathon **5.30** Olympic Games **6.00** Start Your Engines **7.00** Sumo **8.00** Darts **9.00** Boxing **9.30** Football **11.30** Start Your Engines **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Crossroads **7.30** Neighbours **7.55** EastEnders ***8.30*** *The Bill* ***9.00*** *The Bill* ***9.30*** The House of Eliott **10.30** Rhoda **11.00** *Dallas* ***11.55*** *Neighbours* ***12.25pm*** EastEnders **1.00** Bugs **2.00** Dallas **2.55** The Bill **3.25** The Bill **3.55** EastEnders **4.30** Rhoda **5.00** Dangerfield **6.00** Dynasty **7.00** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em **7.40** Last of the Summer Wine **8.20** Dad's Army **9.00** Men Behaving Badly **10.00** Hamish Macbeth **11.05** Ruby Wax Meets Burt Reynolds **11.40** The Bill **12.10am** The Bill **12.40** Between the Lines **1.35** Dad's Army **2.10** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em **3.00** Shopping with Screenshop

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am *High Mill Look* **7.00** Plus On Plus **7.30** The Odd Couple ***8.00*** *Families* ***8.30*** Mind Your Language **9.00** Classic Coronation Street ***9.30*** *Emmerdale* ***10.00*** Upstairs Downstairs **11.00** Charlie's Angels ***12.00*** *Classic Coronation Street* **12.30pm** Emmerdale **1.00** Mind Your Language **1.30** Me and My Girl **2.00** Upstairs, Downstairs **3.00** The Love Boat **4.00** The Professionals **5.00** Charlie's Angels **6.00** Emmerdale **6.30** Coronation Street **7.00** The Professionals **8.00** The Benny Hill Show **9.00** The Sweeney **10.00** Hale and Pace **10.30** The Comedians **11.00** Granada Men and Motors



Alan Shearer and David Seaman will be wearing England's new kit in tonight's friendly against Hungary (Sky Sports 2, 6.30pm)

CARLTON SELECT

5.00pm What's Cooking? **5.30** Gridlock **6.00** Animal SOS **6.30** Our House **7.00** Boon **8.00** Blues and Twos **8.30** Superchefs ***9.00*** *Soldier, Soldier* ***10.00*** *Pie in the Sky* **11.00** Hill Street Blues **12.00** *Tales of the Unexpected* ***12.30am*** *Gridlock* **1.00** Close

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am *Gummi Bears* ***6.25*** *Classic Toons* **6.35** Talespin **7.00** Classic Toons **7.10** *Aladdin* ***7.35*** *101 Dalmatians* ***8.00*** Goof Troop **8.25** Classic Toons **8.45** New *Adventures of Winnie the Pooh* **9.00** The Adventures of Spot **9.07** Animal Shelf **9.17** *Pocket Dragon Adventures* **9.30** Bear in the Big Blue House **9.55** The Toothbrush *Family* **10.00** *Bite Size* **10.12** Rosie and Jim **10.30** The Big Garage **10.45** PB and J Otter **11.00** Sesame Street **12.00** The Adventures of Spot **12.07pm** Animal Shelf **12.17** Pocket Dragon Adventures **12.30** Bear in the Big Blue House **12.55** The Toothbrush Family **1.00** Bite Size **1.12** Rosie and Jim ***1.30*** *The Big Garage* ***1.45*** *PB and J Otter* **2.00** New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh ***2.30*** *Quack Pack* **3.00** *The Little Mermaid* **3.30** Art Attack **4.00** 101 Dalmatians **4.30** Hercules: The TV Show **5.00** Recess **5.15** Pepper Ann **5.30** Smart Guy **6.00** Teen Angel **6.30** Boy Meets World **7.00 FILM: Mail to the Chief (1998)** **8.25** Honey I Shrunk the Kids: The TV Show **9.15** Dinosaurs **10.00** Home Improvement **10.30** The Wonder Years **11.00** Touched by an Angel **11.50** Classic Toons **12.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am *Power Rangers Turbo* ***6.30*** *Power* Rangers Turbo **6.55** Spiderman **7.20** Oggy *and the Cockroaches* **7.30** Dennis and Gnasher **8.00** Hero Turtles: The Next Mutation **8.25** The Incredible Hulk **8.50** Iron Man **9.15** Fantastic Four **9.40** X-Men **10.05** Casper **10.30** Oggy and the Cockroaches **10.55** Eek!Stravaganza **11.05** Bobby's World **11.30** Life with Louie ***11.55*** *Home to* Rent **12.00** The Secret Files of the Spy *Dogs* ***12.30pm*** *Donkey Kong Country* ***1.00*** Mowgli: The New Adventures of the Jungle *Book* ***1.25*** *Ace Ventura* ***1.55*** *The Incredible* Hulk **2.20** Iron Man **2.45** Fantastic Four ***3.10*** *X-Men* ***3.30*** *X-Press* ***3.35*** *Spiderman* **4.00** Goosebumps **4.25** Hero Turtles: The *Next Mutation* ***5.00*** *Dennis and Gnasher* **5.30** Ace Ventura **6.00** Donkey Kong Country **6.30** *Eek!Stravaganza* ***6.55*** *Oggy* and the Cockroaches **7.00** Close

NICKELODEON

6.00am Extreme Ghostbusters **6.30** *Bruno the Kid* **7.00** CatDog **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** Hey *Arnold!* ***8.30*** *Doug* **9.00** Children's BBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** *Papa Beaver Stories* **11.00** *The Magic School Bus* ***11.30*** PB Bear/Animal Antics/Family Ness **12.00** Rugrats ***12.30pm*** *Blue's Clues* ***1.00*** Bananas in Pyjamas **1.30** Franklin **2.00** *Paddington Bear/Lizzie's Library/Portland* Bill/Mr Men/Ivor the Engine **2.30** Children's *BBC* ***3.00*** *Children's BBC* ***3.30*** *Doug* ***4.00*** Angry Beavers **4.30** Rugrats **5.00** Sister *Sister* ***5.30*** *Kenan and Kel* ***6.00*** *Sabrina the* Teenage Witch **6.30** The Secret Life of Alex *Mack* ***7.00*** *Close*

BRAVO

8.00pm Martial Law **9.00** Cops **9.30** The *Late Lounge* ***10.00*** *Extreme Championship* Wrestling **10.30** Erotic Confessions **11.00 FILM: Up! (1976)** **1.00am** Erotic Confessions **1.30** The Late Lounge **2.00** *FILM:* ***Deadly Target (1994)*** **5.00** Extreme Wrestling **5.30** Cops **6.00** Close

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Clueless **7.30** Caroline in the City **8.00** Mad About You **8.30** Spin City **9.00** Drop the Dead Donkey **9.30** Whose Line Is It Anyway? **10.00** Frasier **10.30** Cheers **11.00** Seinfeld **11.30** Spin City **12.00** Late Night with David Letterman **1.00am** Garry Shandling's Show **1.30** Nurses **2.00** Almost Perfect **2.30** Tibs and Fibs **3.00** Mork and Mindy **3.30** Abbott and Costello **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: 8pm-MIDNIGHT ONLY

7.30am Bloomberg Information Television **8.00** Sightings **9.00** Battlestar Galactica **10.00** The Six Million Dollar Man **11.00** Dark Shadows **11.30** The Ray Bradbury Theatre **12.00** The Twilight Zone **12.30pm** The Twilight Zone **1.00** Tales of the Unexpected ***1.30*** *Tales of the Unexpected* **2.00** Amazing Stories **2.30** Mysteries, Magic and *Miracles* ***3.00*** *Battlestar Galactica* **4.00** The Incredible Hulk **5.00** Sightings **6.00** Space *Precinct* ***7.00*** The Six Million Dollar Man **8.00** VR5 **9.00** Lexx **10.00 FILM: Automatic (1994)** **11.40** Sci-Focus Special **12.00** PSI Factor **1.00am FILM:** ***Amityville III (1983)*** **3.00** Dark Shadows **3.30** Dark Shadows **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

6.00am *Simply Painting* ***6.30*** *Instant* Gardens **7.00** Garden Calendar **7.30** The *Great House Game* ***8.00*** *Australia's* Strangest Home Improvements **8.30** The *Close Guide* ***9.00*** *The Joy of Painting* **9.30** Grassroots **10.00** Instant Gardens **10.30** *Antiques Challenge* ***11.00*** *Hooked on* Fishing with Paul Young **11.25** The Home *and Leisure House* ***11.30*** *Total Fishing with* Matt Hayes **12.00** These Four Walls II ***12.30pm*** *Doorstep DIY* **1.00** The Furniture Guys **1.30** Gimme Shelter **2.00** New *Yankee Workshop* **2.30** Home Again with Bob Vila **3.00** This Old House with Steve and Norm **3.30** Two's Country

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt Fishing Adventures **4.30** The Diceman **5.00** Mutiny in the RAF **6.00** Outback Adventures **6.30** Man-Eating Tigers **7.30** How Did They Build That? **8.00** Lost Treasures of the Ancient World **9.00** Wheels of Steel **10.00** Skyscraper at Sea **11.00** Test Flights **12.00** Runaway Trains **1.00am** How Did They Build That? **1.30** The Diceman **2.00** Close

ANIMAL PLANET

12.00am Hollywood Safari **2.00pm** Ocean Wilds **2.30** *Champions of the Wild* ***3.00*** Dolphin Stories **4.00** Two Worlds **4.30** *Champions of the Wild* ***5.00*** *Wild Rescues* **6.00** Pet Rescue **7.00** Wildlife SOS **7.30** *Wildlife SOS* ***8.00*** *Animal Doctor* ***9.00*** Emergency Vets **9.30** Emergency Vets **10.00** Emergency Vets **10.30** Emergency Vets **11.00** Emergency Vets **11.30** Emergency Vets **12.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm The Eagle and the Snake **7.30** The Next Generation **8.30** Last Voyage of the Andrea Doria **9.00** Black Holes **10.00** Killer Storms **11.00** They Never Set Foot on the Moon **12.00** Skis Against the Bomb **12.30am** Stock Car Fever

HISTORY

4.00pm Secrets of War: Korea — Behind the Bamboo Curtain **5.00** Classic Cars: Cadillac **6.00** The Odessa File **6.55** Photos for the Future **7.00** The French Foreign Legion

CARLTON FOOD

9.00am Food Network Daily **9.30** Coxon's Kitchen College **10.00** *From the Ground Up* **10.30** Jenny Bristow's Country Cooking **11.00** Worrall Thompson Cooks **11.30** Ideal *Home Cooks* **12.00** Food Network Daily **12.30pm** A Year at Ballymaloe **1.00** Coxon's Kitchen College **1.30** Turner's Tour *of Hong Kong* **2.00** Mridula's Indian Kitchen **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** Loyd's Louisiana **3.30** Ideal Home Cooks **4.00** *Thoroughly Modern British* **4.30** Simply Baking **5.00** Close

LIVING

6.00am *Can't Cook, Won't Cook* **6.30** Animal Rescue **7.00** Professor Bubble **7.25** Caillou **7.30** Polka Dot Shorts **7.40** Johnson and Friends **7.50** Babaloos **7.55** Practical Parenting **8.00** Barney and Friends **8.25** My Zoo **8.30** Tiny and Crew **8.50** Practical Parenting **9.00** Special Babies **9.30** Home and Away **10.00** Jerry Springer **10.50** Maury Povich **11.40** Brookside **12.10pm** Through the Keyhole **12.40** Rescue 911 **1.10** Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction **1.40** Maury Povich **2.30** Special Babies **3.00** Living Room **3.50** Michael Cole **4.40** Home and Away **5.10** Through the Keyhole **5.40** Can't Cook, Won't Cook **6.15** The Jerry Springer Show **7.05** Rescue 911 ***7.35*** Animal Rescue **8.00** LA Law **9.00 FILM: Lifeline (1995)** ***11.00-12.00*** *Sextasy!*

ZEE TV

5.00am Lolly Pop **5.30** Hey Ha Ho **6.00** Out *and About* ***6.30*** *Yoodle-Ae-Oo* ***7.00*** Faith Christian **7.30** News **8.00** India Business *Report* ***8.30*** *Tara 2* ***9.00*** *Rishtey: The Love* Stories **10.00** Urdu Drama **11.00** *Khoobsurat* ***11.30*** *Parampara* ***12.00*** *Urdu* **FILM 3.00pm** Zee Bangla **3.30** Hum Paanch **4.00** Filmi Chakkar **4.30** Ek Minute **5.00** Jungle Book **5.30** Mausam **6.00** Top of the Tops **6.30** Banegi Apni Baat **7.00** Baat Ban Jaye **7.30** It's My Choice **8.00** News **8.30** Amanat **9.00** Urdu Drama **10.00** Ikke Pe Ikka **10.30** Woh **11.00** Purukshetra **12.00** News **12.30am** Tandoori Masala **1.00** Bangla T V **1.30** Parivartan **2.00** Gujarati **FILM 4.30** Narsayo



SNOOKER 41
Higgins races to commanding lead at the Crucible

SPORT



RACING 42
More gloom for Maguire as injury jinx strikes again

Keegan gives first chance to one forward and perhaps a final opportunity to another



Off the shelf: Phillips, who was stacking bread at a warehouse only four years ago, makes his England debut against Hungary in Budapest tonight. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Phillips caps striking rise

IT IS *symptomatic* of a match conceived *in ignorance* and raised in indifference that a man who was once fit only to clean Alan Shearer's boots and whose little sister played at Wembley before he did should take centre stage in the *Nep Stadium tonight*, when England play Hungary.

The odds are stacked so high against the game that nobody really wanted that football's undying sense of irony dictates it is likely to yield *something of great worth*, be it a performance of stellar potential or the belated flowering of a talent almost abandoned.

England's recent football history is littered with such events. The game against Brazil in the Maracanã in 1984, which made a superstar out of John Barnes and helped to launch the career of Mark Hateley, is one. The match with Egypt in 1986, which provided *Peter Beardsley with his* first cap, is another.

Tonight, it may be that Steve McManaman finally rams the taunts of the critics back down their throats and proves that he can perform with the same vivacity and impudence that has characterised his career with Liverpool for so long.

Whatever Kevin Keegan

FROM OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT IN BUDAPEST

said yesterday to take the heat off him, this England team has been constructed around McManaman, its midfield packed with three ball-winning *Rottweilers — Tim Sherwood*, David Batty and Nicky Butt — to give him total freedom to try to wreak havoc behind the front two.

Against a Hungary side that is susceptible defensively and *struggling forlornly to recapture* past glories, McManaman will never have a better chance to shake off the tag of international failure.

The night might just as easily belong to Kevin Phillips, the prolific Sunderland striker, who was an apprentice with Southampton when Shearer's career at The Dell was beginning to take off and who will *win his first cap alongside the* England captain.

Even though Wes Brown, the Manchester United defender, will also make his debut, it was Phillips who commanded most of the attention yesterday. *The speed of his rise from* obscurity seemed to fit the mood of opportunity that Keegan has tried to build around this match.

Four years ago, Phillips, who has scored 53 goals in 79 appearances for Sunderland, was playing non-league football for Baldock Town, stack*ing shelves at a Sunblest ware*house and later driving a forklift truck to load radiators and copper piping for B&Q. He will be *playing tonight*, he said, for his 17-month-old daughter, Millie Ann, who was taken to hospital on Saturday when doctors suspected *that she was suffering from* meningitis. His only thoughts then were for her. He was on the verge of pulling out of Keegan's squad.

"It was a major scare for me," Phillips said yesterday, "but *thankfully she* pulled through. She had not been well for about three weeks, her temperature had been up and down. We took her to the game on *Saturday* and I got a call as I came off the pitch about an hour before the game and the doctor was saying she had to be rushed to hospital because she had come over all lifeless.

"I went into the medical room *to see her and it was* scary. I thought I was losing her and I went to hospital and thankfully she responded. It was touch and go whether I came here."

Phillips, 25, has had more *than his share of adversity*. His father, Ray, who had helped him to keep his discipline when he was at Baldock, stopped him going out with *his friends on Friday nights* and generally kept his feet on *the ground*, died *suddenly* three years ago. "He will be looking down on me tomorrow," Phillips said. "He would be very proud."

His career seemed to have stalled before it had started. Rejected by Southampton because Chris Nicholl, the manager, thought that he was too small and weak for a striker, he rebuilt his career at Baldock, where he earned £150 a week, *before moving on to* Watford — where he actually took a pay cut — and then Sunderland.

"I think I appreciate things more *because of all that*," he said. "It has been a hell of a *rollercoaster ride for me and* my family and I am determined to get the most out of it now.

"I work hard every day in training. I *enjoy my life*. I think it's a fantastic life. It's not for ever, so I think you have to work at it while you have got it. If you put it in, there are great rewards.

"It has really turned into a *fairytale for me*, *but I know it* could all end just as quickly. I'm not intimidated by the thought of playing with Alan, but it is a shock for me to come and start training with the big boys. I have not even had a *taste of the Premiership yet*.

"I even struggled to get into the Baldock team straight away. They had been playing me at right back in the Southampton *youth team, but thank*fully they gave me a chance to *play in attack at Baldock and* I grabbed it with both hands."

He played at Wembley last season, in Sunderland's play-off defeat by Charlton Athletic, *but his sister, Karen*, beat him to it, appearing there for Hemel Hempstead Ladies. "It was only in front of about 100 people," he said, "but I was *jealous and she never stops rib*bing me about it." Tonight he *may have a chance to establish* his own claim to fame.

HUNGARY (probable 4-4-2):
G Kiraly (Herta BSC) —
J Matyus (Ferencvaros), **J Hrutka** (FC Kaiserslautern), ***G Korsos*** *(Gyori ETO)*, ***V Sebok*** *(Bristol City)* —
G Halmai (MTK Hungaria), **I Pisont** (Eintracht Frankfurt), **B Illes** (MTK Hungaria), **P Dardai** (Herta BSC) —
T Dombi (DVSC Epona), **N Toth** (Ujpest).

ENGLAND (4-3-1-2):
D Seaman (Arsenal) —
W Brown (Manchester United), **M Keown** (Arsenal), **R Ferdinand** (West Ham United), **P Neville** (Manchester United) —
T Sherwood (Tottenham Hotspur), **D Batty** (Leeds United)
N Butt (Manchester United) — **S McManaman** (Liverpool) —
K Phillips (Sunderland), **A Shearer** (Newcastle United)

Referee: L Frohlicke (Germany) Kick-off: 7.15pm

TELEVISION: **Sky Sports 2:** Live coverage 7.0. **ITV:** The Big Match, highlights,10.30.
RADIO: Radio 5 Live: John Inverdale's Football Night, from 7.10.

Jury still out on value of free spirit

Matt Dickinson believes a roving role will suit Steve McManaman

The longest trial in English football reconvenes tonight when Steve McManaman runs out in Budapest, and those of us who do *not believe him guilty of* impersonating a top-class footballer will approach the match with a certain amount of foreboding. It is a sceptical jury that sits in judgment.

Forget the debuts for Kevin *Phillips and Wes Brown or* David Seaman's fiftieth cap — by the time that Kevin Keegan had concluded his address yesterday, this was Macca's match. "*The team has been set* up for him to go and prove people wrong," the England coach said, and it was impossible not to ponder the consequences *should he fail*.

Support and understanding are not widespread — not even in his native Merseyside these days — for a player who, like John Barnes and *Glenn Hoddle* before him, is mistrusted by a country that has traditionally celebrated *reliability* over ephemeral brilliance. "The guy who just fetches and carries does not have the same expectations," Keegan said, "*but the player you pick to ex*cite, to go past people and score goals, they can have an average game and it looks disappointing."

> 'It is the chance to play him in his best position'

Keegan's mitigation will not stop expectation weighing *heavily on* McManaman's spindly frame tonight. While Sherwood, Batty and Butt perform the menial tasks behind him, he will be expected to sprinkle some of the coach's "magic dust" on the untried forward partnership of Shearer and Phillips.

"He is going to be a free spirit," Keegan said. "With the circumstances and the squad I have got, it is the chance to play him in his best position. He can go where he wants. I won't restrict him.

"There is part of Macca burning to prove people wrong. It always comes back to the player. He has to pull any shirt on, whether it is for Liverpool against Manchester United or just in a friendly in Morocco, and, if you are a *name, every game has to be* a big game."

Not too many of McManaman's 23 international appearances would fall into that category and for that, he must take some of the blame. Yet he can counter that he has not been properly used by an England manager since Terry Venables successfully placed him as an attacking wing *back during Euro 96*. Hoddle's mistrust included employing him as a left back in Switzerland, while his last cap, against Poland on the *wing, came when he was not* fit.

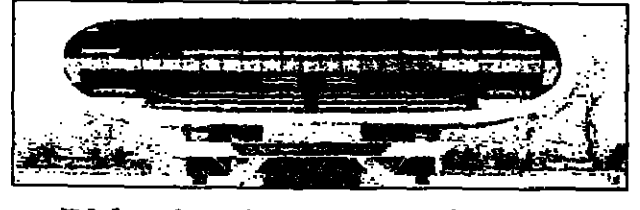
His performance at Blackburn Rovers on Saturday suggested a return to form, but the 27-year-old is still *some way short of* his best because of injury and the distractions of his summer move to Real Madrid — a problem Keegan knows well.

"I had a difficult *last season at Liver*pool before Hamburg," he said. "When I *played well, they said* I was trying to get a move. If I played badly, they said I didn't care. Hopefully, Madrid will spark him off like it did for me. He is learning the language and he is bright *enough to respond*."

Perhaps realising that, with every sentence, he was intensifying the glare on McManaman, Keegan attempted to backtrack — "I am not building the team around him," he said — but *it was too late*. "I want the best out of him," he added, "and we should want that as a nation." McManaman, who has always been appreciated by a wider audience in Europe than in England, will *not count on the* country's patience.

Hodgson returns, page 45
United denial, page 45

Lord's spaceship has landed



Richard Hobson talks to the Czech architect who has brought a futuristic aspect to the Nursery End

Over the 31 years *since Soviet tanks* rolled into Prague, Jan Kaplicky sought a way to thank the country that offered him sanctuary. *As an assembled crowd* gave the futuristic NatWest Media Centre at Lord's its approval yesterday, he stood back quietly and decided that a debt of gratitude had finally been repaid.

Kaplicky had *spent the four* years before 1968 trying to establish himself as an architect in the former Czechoslovakia before attempts to democra*tise* the country were repressed. Ten days into the in*vasion, he decided to escape* from his homeland and try to forge a new life in England.

Had Kaplicky not been granted refugee status, and founded his company, Future Systems, in 1979, the world's *most historic* cricket ground would never have been home to his *eye-catching design*, resembling an extra-terrestrial gherkin, which now crowns the Nursery End, spanning 42 metres between the Compton and Edrich Stands.

"My dream has been to *make a contribution* to your people for not throwing me back in the English Channel when I needed help," Kaplicky said. "Until now, the Czechs have given England only *three things* — pointed shoes, the word 'robot' and the Bren gun. But now I hope this Media Centre makes it four."



Anne Boleyn brought over the shoes before her brief marriage to King Henry VIII. *Robot derives* from a 1920 play by Karl Kaper, *R.U.R.* The abbreviation stands for Rossum's Universal Robot, from the Czech word *robota*, meaning forced labour. The Bren gun, a light machine *gun used during the Second* World War, derives from the *Czech town of Brno, where* it was invented, and the manufacturing site in Enfield.

The cost of the Lord's project — the first single-shell aluminium building ever constructed — is around £5 million, with more than *half of* the figure contributed to the MCC by NatWest. A series of hooks have been designed into the external skin to facilitate cleaning by abseilers.

Inside, the marine-blue de*cor and curved-back seats* give the appearance of a trendy coffee bar rather than a place of work for journalists and broadcasters. A room at the back even houses a machine for making cappuccino — in *dry contrast to the bar in a cor*ner of the previous press box.

In architectural and engineering circles, doubts persisted over whether such a revolutionary construction was physically possible. It is based on *principles used in the* boat building and aircraft industries and was built by Pendennis Shipyard Ltd, of Falmouth.

"Even recently one distinguished MCC member said it *would* not stand up," Kaplicky said, "but here it is."

David Hudd, chairman of MCC's finance committee said: "It will take time for people to get used to, but it does measure up to the requirements of the age."

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 1703

ACROSS
1 Impaled: secretly added alcohol (6)
5 Soapy sphere (6)
8 Mus. instrument: medal *(slang)* (4)
9 Rate of progress (8)
10 One aimed at (6)
12 Wonky (4)
15 NY *advertising* centre (7,6)
16 Marshes: Cambs. ones (4)
17 Pour scorn on (6)
19 Wave threateningly (8)
21 Shed tears (4)
22 Poise, self-assurance (6)
23 Ceremonial procession (6)

DOWN
2 Disseminate: breed (eg plant) (9)
3 Barrel: (fizzy) beer (3)
4 Loving attachment (8)
5 It saves groggy boxer maybe (4)
6 Pirate (9)
7 Illuminated (3)
11 *Slide between notes* (9)
13 Parliamentary soldier (9)
14 Privation, want (8)
18 Arm or leg (4)
20 Make tear (in) (3)
21 Conflict (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1702
ACROSS: 7 Fall into line 9 Intense 10 Ridge 11 Tray 12 Atlantis 15 Crevasse 17 Halo 19 Lodge 21 Amnesia 22 Make it snappy
DOWN: 1 Carthage 2 Flank 3 Infest 4 Journal 5 Mind 6 Recessional 8 Fifth column 13 Transept 14 Javelin 16 Sparse 18 In-law 20 Dyke